EAST BAY EXPRESS

MAY 20-26, 2009 EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM

The Scavenger's Manifesto

By Anneli Rufus

PLUS Swap Locally By Kas Vagner Share and Share Alike By Matthew Craggs The Anti Gold Digger By Kathleen Richards A Bad Economy Is Bad for Recycling By Ron Kelly Where the Garage Sale Never Ends By Cassie Harwood

ART 29

CULTURE SPY 23

WHO KNOWS JOE?

Joe Orrach pulls no punches in his new one-man show

By Rachel Swan

At age 53, actor Joe Orrach seems about as combustible as he was in his early twenties. He's solidly built, with thick arm muscles and a well-defined jawline. He talks fast and intonates words with a sharp zing. Born in the Bronx and raised in a blue-collar Puerto Rican family, he says fighting is part of his genetic pedigree. His father and uncle both boxed. His brother grew up to be the heavyweight champion of New York. Orrach boxed, too, and became a welterweight titleholder in the Air Force before he was discharged in 1977. Then he opted to become a ballet dancer. *Story inside*

FOOD 35

MASTER-CLASS SANDWICHES

They're simple, humble, and we take them for granted.

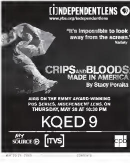
LIT 72

OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

Jacqueline Woodson embraces the marginalized

A DIVA'S CLOSET
Clothing • Shoes • Accessories • Plus Sizes
20% off
any single item
restrictions apply [illegible]
Tues – Sat 11 – 7
383 17th St. Oakland 625 8085

FIGHT CLUB - MEMBERS ONLY!
NOT GOING TO TAKE IT ANYMORE?
PERSONAL INJURY (DOGS & WEIRDOS?)
EMPLOYMENT (HITS BELOW THE BELT)
CONSUMER FRAUD (SUCKER PUNCHES!)
LAW OFFICES OF
MATTHEW J. WITTEMAN
TWENTY YEARS OF RING SUCCESS!
FREE CONSULTATION. OFFICE OR HOME
EAST BAY (510) 525-3388 WITTLEGAL.COM SAN FRANCISCO (415) 362-3106


[i]NDEPENDENTLENS
www.pbs.org/independentlens
"It's impossible to look away from the screen."
Variety
CRIPS AND BLOODS: MADE IN AMERICA
By Stacy Peralta
AIRS ON THE EMMY AWARD-WINNING PBS SERIES, *INDEPENDENT LENS*, ON THURSDAY, MAY 28 AT 10:30 PM
KQED 9

CONTENTS

NEWS/OPINION

4 **Letters**
5 **Seven Days** John Yoo, pariah or pundit?
7 **Eco Watch** AC Transit's hydrogen boondoggle
10 **News** Gone phishing on Craigslist.
11 **Feature** "The Scavenger's Manifesto," "Swap Locally," "Share and Share Alike," "The Anti Gold Digger," "A Bad Economy Is Bad for Recycling," and "Where the Garage Sale Never Ends."

ARTS/CULTURE

[illegible] **Culture Spy** *In My Corner at Black Box Theatre*
25 **Event & Attraction Listings** Berkeley Chess School at Maxwell Park Elementary School
29 **Museum & Gallery Listings** *Fiction-figure* at Kala Gallery
[illegible] **Theater & Dance Listings**
[illegible] **Theater** *Shortlived* at Studio 250
32 **Lectures & Literary Listings** Jacqueline Woodson at Oakland Main Library's West Auditorium
33 **Body & Soul Listings** Herbal cosmetics class at Ohlone Center of Herbal Studies.
34 **Aquarium Age**

FOOD/DRINK

35 **Dining Review** Sandwich shops in Berkeley.
37 **Restaurants & Cafes**
39 **Food & Wine Listings**

MOVIES

40 **Movie Review** *Terminator Salvation*, *The Girlfriend Experience*, and *Summer Hours*.
40 **Movie Listings**
43 **One-Night Stands**

MUSIC

44 **Big Business** At Bottom of the Hill
46 **CD Reviews** Ben Harper and Relentless7, Jane's Addiction, and Sir Richard Bishop
46 **Local Licks** Christian Vilato, Sir Lord Von Raven, the Fresh & Only, and No One and the Nobodies.
48 **Concerts & Club Listings**
55 **DJ & Dance Listings**

EXTRAS

59 **Savage Love**

On the Cover *Photo by Chris Duffey*

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Publishing 50,000 papers weekly

Editorial
Editor Stephen Buel
Managing Editor Kathleen Richards
Staff Writer Robert Gammon
Staff Writer/Calendar Editor Rachel Swan
Photo Editor/Editorial Coordinator Kate Seltzer
Editorial Interns Carole Atwood, Jonathan Mann, Benjamin Taylor, Al Thanawala
Proofreader Claudia Bauer
Contributors John Birdsall, Bob Campbell, Debra Chang, Chris Duffey, Nate Ford, Dave Gil de Rubio, Matthew Green, Andrea Gunnell, Cole Haddon, J.R. Jones, Kirby Pickman, Eric Klein, [illegible], Anneli Rufus, Jason Victor Serinus, Matthew Stafford, Kelly Vance

Art & Production
Production Manager Greg Stevens
Graphic Designers Brian Kelly, [illegible] Wong

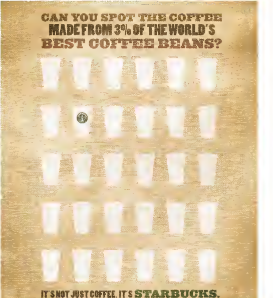
Business
Publisher Jody Colley
Business Manager [illegible]
Systems Managers [illegible] Networks
Buy Local Community Organizer [illegible]

Advertising
Sales & Marketing Director Terry Furry
Sales Manager [illegible]
Account Executives Ron Gramberg, [illegible] Leventhal, Marie Ortiz, Brent Ragwood, Tiffany Vail
Marketing Manager Sarah Hamrell

The *East Bay Express* is the local alternative to mainstream media. We seek to promote truth, expose wrongdoing, and give voice to the voiceless. We are dedicated to local arts and culture. We aim for the highest standards in our journalism and business practices. As an independent local business, we want to help improve the health of the East Bay economy and environment. The *Express* provides a diverse work atmosphere where employees are respected and developed.

620 3rd St.,
Oakland, CA 94607
Office 510-879-3700 **Fax** 510-879-3794
National advertising 888-2-RUXTON **Fax** 650-238-4405

The Express is free of charge, one copy per reader. To purchase additional copies for $1, visit our office. To order a back issue for $4, or to subscribe, call 510-879-3700. Anyone found to be stealing the paper will be prosecuted for theft under Penal Code Section 490, which is punishable by six months in jail and a $1,000 fine. The Express is a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulation. It is published Wednesdays by East Bay Publishing LLC, 1335 Stanford Ave., Emeryville, CA 94608. The entire contents are ©2009, East Bay Publishing LLC. All rights reserved.


CAN YOU SPOT THE COFFEE
MADE FROM 3% OF THE WORLD'S
BEST COFFEE BEANS?
IT'S NOT JUST COFFEE. IT'S STARBUCKS.

NEWS & OPINION

EAST BAY EXPRESS
The Chemistry of Commitment

LETTERS

Re: Palestinian [illegible]

Ministries of Hate

During the eight years of the Bush administration, when one would think that KPFA's progressive audience would expand, the station lost a third of its listeners. And under the ownership of Becky O'Malley, the *Berkeley Daily Planet* has seen advertisers avoid it like the plague. Why have two of our home-based outlets for news reportage fallen so dramatically? The revealing story in the *Express* on how the radio station has responded to the murder of four Oakland police officers, along with a repugnant op-ed in the *Daily Planet*, provides more than a little insight into why so many locals have concluded that KPFA and the *Planet* are twin Ministries of Hate.

That any radio news program would include a broadcaster such as JR Valrey would be most unlikely anywhere but on KPFA. Valrey is a close friend of Yusef Bey IV, who many believe planned the murder of Chauncey Bailey. Varley claims that Lovelle Mixon's killing of the four Oakland officers was well-deserved and that Mixon is a hero in Oakland's black community. That may be true among a few misguided African American youth, but the vast majority of Oakland's blacks — having to regularly deal with the horrific rate of young men murdering other black men — joined at the start of the Dellums administration along with Asians and whites in calling for a greater police force to protect law abiding Oakland citizenry from the city's burgeoning violent crime.

Echoing Varley's commentaries that the murdered police got what was coming to them was an almost incoherent op-ed reminiscent of an infantile rant in the *Daily Planet* by one Joseph Anderson. Indeed Anderson opines that Mixon has already attained legendary status in Oakland and will be fondly remembered long after the fallen officers are forgotten.

This is not the first time KPFA and the *Daily Planet* have been the conduit of such vicious outbursts of bigotry and psychopathology. The host of Flashpoints Dennis Bernstein and the show's frequent producer Barbara Lubin, are longtime pro-Palestinian propagandists who, along with other KPFA broadcasters, have alienated most of the East Bay's liberal/progressive Jews. Ditto the *Daily Planet*, where owner/editor Becky O'Malley is so incessantly bent on demonizing Israel that few advertisers consider placing ads in her poorly read paper. This began long before the economic downturn, starting in 2006 when the *Planet* printed an overtly anti-Semitic commentary by an Iranian that drew the criticism of prominent East Bay politicians such as Mayors Tom Bates and Jerry Brown.

The Israel and Jew-bashing reached such a crescendo at the *Planet* that local businessman John Gertz was moved to meticulously research and launch on line a widely read web site, DPWatchDog.com, in which readers may find both O'Malley's obsession with Israel along with the *Planet*'s frequent manifestations of journalistic malfeasance (its primary reporter quit because she says O'Malley censored quotes from those she didn't like, a staff member had a fawning ode to the *Planet* published in the paper, the primary advertiser's new book was reviewed by none other than the author himself, etc.).

Although there are some local Jewish residents who loath Israel, the vast majority of Berkeley Jews — while sometimes critical of Israeli policy — by and large support its existence. Berkeley's population is about 20 percent Jewish and most now shun both KPFA and the *Planet*, which many have come to call "The Daily Palestinian."

Local potential listeners and readers are now once again targeted by these ideological merchants of hatred who are have given left lunatic fringe demagogues like Valrey and Anderson free reign to rail against both the valiant police protectors of our community's safety as well as the world's only Jewish state.

Given precipitously declining listeners and readers, why do the likes of KPFA broadcasters and the *Planet*'s owner/editor persist in promulgating such sickening screed, marginalizing themselves in the process? While they may justify it on the grounds of the First Amendment, people such as Dennis Bernstein and Barbara Lubin of KPFA and *Planet* publisher O'Malley can also chose not to air or print such trash. One can sum up the reason they do: Like Valrey and Anderson they too, love to hate.

Dan Spitzer, Berkeley

A Call for Change

As a former OUSD teacher I have seen the suffering of many young black men like Lovelle Mixon. However, to place him in the same category as Nat Turner and Huey Newton is just plain wrong as the former was not ever working for the benefit of the community as were the latter two.

Certainly I, and I hope others, will see this recent violence as yet another wake-up call to give the Lovelle Mixons of the world a reason and an opportunity to change. I understand being anti-police and working for the removal of brutal cops, but to celebrate a death, in this case four, is to deny one's own humanity.

Diane Kirkland, Oakland

[illegible]

Mall Cops Are Real

While audiences loved *Mall Cop* and will likely line up to see the upcoming *Observe and Report*, starring Seth Rogan, real world contract security companies who serve malls see more fiction than fact in these comic portrayals. How does the reality of life as a retail security officer compare with what is depicted in these comedies? These movies provide some lighthearted fun and entertainment, but in no way personify the real world of mall security officers on the job. These hard working, highly trained men and women are our country's first responders who have a wide range of skills — from the sensitivity to deal with lost children to the ability to respond to and effectively address law enforcement incidents. Security officers are often put in high risk situations as they confront and detain criminals engaged in theft, trespassing, gang activity, and every other manner of unlawful behavior that occurs where thousands of consumers congregate on a daily basis.

Tom Walton, vice president
AlliedBarton Security Services

[illegible] Back to the Public Schools? [illegible]

Don't Blame Prop 13

Mr. Youngdahl does raise a point that others have raised over the years concerning decisions about where to place one's children during economic downturns. What concerns me is that Mr. Youngdahl blames Proposition 13 for the state of California's schools, while neglecting to mention the *Serrano v. Priest* court case that pre-dates Proposition 13 or the *Serrano II* decision, which effectively changed the funding mechanism for schools from local to state government. He also comments on the difficulty of raising parcel taxes due to the two-thirds approval requirement. I believe raising taxes should be difficult. What Mr. Youngdahl failed to mention is that numerous school districts within Alameda County have been able to raise taxes. While he mentioned Alameda Unified's Measure H, he failed to mention their Measure A, or measures that passed in Oakland, San Leandro, and Berkeley.

Mr. Youngdahl may have some valid points in his column, however, by making statements without backup, disregarding crucial information, or limiting his examples, these points are missed.

Jim Heinemeyer, Castro Valley

"The Chemistry of Commitment," Feature 4/15

Suck on Oxytocin

I recently read your article on the "Chemistry of Commitment," and would like to correct you on one thing. Oxytocin CAN be bought. Naturopathic doctors are able to prescribe Oxytocin lozenges to patients. I am a graduate student doing my masters project on the transformative effects of Oxytocin, and currently have seven people taking one to two doses a week of this incredible hormone.

I have done papers with much of the same information you offered in your article, utilizing Barash's *The Myth of Monogamy*, Moberg's *The Oxytocin Factor*, and Fisher's *Why We Love*. You are very right with all of your statements, but there is so much research showing that beyond the trust, generosity, and empathy, it can also play a role in cutting addictions, working with autistic individuals, and helping PTSD patients.

I just wanted to let you know that it is available and that research is being done all over the place with it. Perhaps not so much with the lozenges, but it is showing signs of being incredibly promising. Already my participants are having incredible experiences with it.

Jessica Fratus, Oakland

[illegible] Opinion, 4/15

Adopt and Snip

While PETA wishes that the Obamas had taken the golden opportunity to set an example for our country by adopting a castoff dog from a shelter or breed rescue group, we're relieved to learn that Bo won't contribute to the glut of unwanted dogs, because he has already been neutered ("Breeder Heal Thyself," 4/15/09).

Each year, some 6 to 8 million animals end up in our country's shelters. About half of these animals — most of them just as healthy and sweet as Bo is — must be euthanized because there aren't enough good homes for them. Every dog and cat breeder shares the blame for this tragedy because every puppy or kitten they produce takes away a home — and a chance at life — from a needy shelter animal. As long as animals are dying for lack of homes, no breeding can be considered "responsible."

I encourage readers who are ready to pour their time, money, energy, and love into an animal to adopt from their local shelter or Pet Finder.com, and to make sure their animals are fixed, as Bo is. If Americans vow to always do these two things — adopt and "snip" — together, yes we can end animal homelessness.

Daphna Nachminovitch, vice president
Cruelty Investigations Department, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)

[illegible], 1/15

Testing Buds Expands

Your cover story about the analytic chemistry lab serving the medical cannabis industry was an important scoop. Grats to David Downs and the EBE for playing it so prominently and giving it so much space. The outrage expressed by a letter writer was misplaced — the lab plans to test for pesticides as soon as it is feasible. They also plan to test for terpenes — aromatic compounds in the plant, some of which may influence its effects on the mind and body. As Dylan said, "Things should start to get interesting, right about now."

Fred Gardner, Alameda

Correction

There was a typo in our photo caption in "The Best Fests" (Summer Guide, May 13). The caption should read "Outside Lands Music & Arts Festival."

Letters Policy

Please provide your full name, address, and daytime phone number, although we will only print your name, city, and affiliation. Send submissions to Letters@EastBayExpress.com or Letters, *East Bay Express*, 1335 Stanford Ave Suite 100, Emeryville, CA 94608. Letters are edited for length and clarity.

verizonwireless

This could be the start of a beautiful friendship.

Buy a BlackBerry® Storm,™ and get any BlackBerry Smartphone Free!

Each phone requires new 2 yr. activation on voice plan with email feature or email plan. While supplies last.

BlackBerry 8830 World Edition
BlackBerry Curve™
BlackBerry Pearl™

NEW! BlackBerry Storm
Verizon Wireless 3G Exclusive
The world's first touch screen BlackBerry
$199.99

Call 1.800.2.JOIN.IN Shop 24/7 verizonwireless.com Visit any store

Activation fee/line: $35

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agmt, Calling Plan, rebate form & credit approval. Up to $175 early termination fee/line & other charges & $1.99/MB (incl. Mobile Web ads). Offers and coverage, varying by service, not available everywhere. Rebate debit card takes up to 6 weeks and expires in 12 months. BlackBerry, RIM, Research In Motion, SureType® and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Network details and coverage maps at verizonwireless.com. In CA: Sales tax based on full retail price of phone. Shipping charges may apply. ©2008 RM & © 2008 Activision Publishing, Inc. RM & © 2008 Hands-On Mobile, Inc. All rights reserved. © 2009 Verizon Wireless. 77956

Acupuncture is health care at its finest
First learn why Chinese medicine is so effective
Then learn how to become a licensed acupuncturist!
OPEN HOUSE DATES: June 27, 2009, August 8, 2009
- Accredited MS degree in Traditional Chinese Medicine / Massage Therapy Program Cert
- Outstanding, experienced faculty from China, Taiwan, and the United States
- Emphasis on the classical roots and modern applications of Traditional Chinese Medicine
- Full/part-time classes
- English and Chinese tracks
- Financial assistance available
Take a tour and/or sit in on a class!
1601 Clay St.
Oakland, Ca. 94612
510 763 7787
Clinic - 510 763 1209
www.acchs.edu
info@acchs.edu

LASER HAIR REMOVAL
Reverse the sign of aging!
50% off any Laser Treatment
TITAN LIFT, TONE & TIGHTEN YOUR SKIN
- Laser Acne Scar Treatment
- Sun Spot/Rosacea removal by Photo Facial
- Wrinkle Removal
- Laser Face & Leg Vein Removal
- Laser Skin Rejuvenation
- Restylane and Medical Chemical Peels
Get special discounts on
BOTOX $11/Unit
JUVEDERM $535/Injection
20% OFF ALL PRODUCTS
OBAGI, SKINCEUTICALS, LATISSE, PROCYTE, RADIESSE
San Ramon: (925)-997-9995
Mountain View: (650)-868-5636
Earn $25 credit per referral
RADIANT IMAGES LASER CENTER
www.RadiantImagesLaser.com
FREE CONSULTATION
2301 Camino Ramon Suite 210 • Bishop Ranch 11 • San Ramon • Mountain View • Walnut Creek

BUY FRESH
BUY LOCAL
Local Food View:
Be Love Farm
I am Grateful for Café Gratitude taking the leap and farming near Vacaville to supply their restaurants. Walking their talk of thankfulness, vivaciousness and radiance, now their food is as fresh as their menu. They put the good in food's intentions and are a proud partner of CAFF
CAFF
COMMUNITY ALLIANCE WITH FAMILY FARMERS • WWW.CAFF.ORG

Café Gratitude
live • organic • vegan

SEVEN DAYS

JOHN YOO: PARIAH OR PUNDIT?

Human rights groups file a legal ethics complaint against UC Berkeley's Torture Professor while the mainstream media turns him into a newspaper columnist.

By Robert Gammon

Is the noose tightening around UC Berkeley law school professor John Yoo, or will the mainstream media protect the author of the infamous "Torture Memos" from prosecution by making him appear legitimate? At this point, it's anybody's guess. But one thing's for sure. It was another up and down week for the former Bush administration attorney who authorized torture, helped galvanize anti-American sentiment, and put our soldiers at unnecessary risk.

First came the news that the *Philadelphia Inquirer* had hired Yoo as an op-ed columnist. Yoo grew up in the area, and in his first column, he promptly attacked Barack Obama, criticizing the president for saying that he would consider appointing a new Supreme Court justice who empathizes with real people — instead of just viewing the law in the abstract. Hmm. Yoo opposes empathy. Why are we not surprised? Waterboarding — good. Caring about people — bad. Got it.

In more sane developments, a broad coalition of human rights groups and liberal attorneys has filed an official ethics complaint against Yoo with the Pennsylvania bar association, where he holds his law license. The coalition is seeking legal sanctions, up to and including disbarment, against Yoo and eleven other Bush-era attorneys for their roles in authorizing torture, including former Defense Department Counsel William Haynes, who now works for Chevron in San Ramon. The liberal activists allege that Yoo and the other Bush lawyers violated their legal ethical duties when they brushed aside US and international laws that make torture, including waterboarding, a war crime.

But will these complaints go anywhere when mainstream papers are paying Yoo and giving him a forum to spout his extreme right-wing views? Even the *Oakland Tribune* has gotten into the act. The paper published Yoo's first column as well, treating him as if he were some legitimate political voice instead of the disgraced public figure that he really is. In fact, the paper didn't even acknowledge Yoo's leading role in enabling the CIA and military interrogators to torture defenseless prisoners. It looks as if the paper plans to make the professor a regular feature on its op-ed page, too.

Is the Worst Yet to Come?

Despite reports that the economy may be rebounding, the number of homes falling into foreclosure nationwide took a huge jump in April. How big? About 32 percent higher than April 2008, according to the Associated Press. Not only is that a significant increase, but it's scary, considering that the foreclosure crisis was already well under way last spring. In Alameda County, there was a 72 percent jump in the number over last year. It's the second straight month of very bad foreclosure news. If this trend continues, then the slight rebound we've seen recently may be just a temporary blip on the way to a long, steep recession.

Is the East Bay Sniper Back?

If you still have wheels, try avoiding Interstate 680 in Fremont, because a sniper (or snipers) is terrorizing a section of the freeway. The *Valley Times* reports that up to 45 cars were hit. The California Highway Patrol believes the shooter or shooters used a BB gun or an air rifle. Let's just hope the CHP does a better job investigating the case than it did during the last freeway shootings five years ago. In early 2004, a sniper or snipers shot up a stretch of I-580 from San Leandro to Castro Valley, but the CHP badly mishandled the case and arrested a man despite having virtually no evidence. No charges were ever filed.

Oakland Police Fallout

Oakland police, meanwhile, experienced the first bit of fallout from the killing of four cops earlier this year. According to the *Trib* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the head of the department's SWAT team asked for reassignment after his officers told him they no longer had confidence in his leadership. The team members were angry that Captain Ed Tracey chose to remain at Highland Hospital with the first two officers who were shot and not lead the search for suspect Lovelle Mixon — who ended up killing two SWAT team members during an ill-advised raid.

A New Oakland Schools Supe

As for Oakland public schools, the school board is moving ahead with its plan to hire a new permanent superintendent. According to the *Trib*, the board whittled down the list of finalists to three, and plans to make a decision by May 22. However, the new supe won't have full authority over the district. That's because State Superintendent Jack O'Connell has refused to relinquish his power over the district's finances despite recommendations from state auditors that he do so. Will the board's decision to hire a new schools chief force O'Connell to finally return local control to Oakland schools? Or is the board creating false expectations by hiring someone who basically will have no authority?

Three-Dot Roundup

In a city known for horrific crimes, Oakland reached a new low when a 97-year-old woman was beaten to death in her home. Ivarene Lett is believed to be the oldest person ever murdered in the city. ... The BART board finally approved a long-awaited plan to finance a $522 million elevated rail line from the Coliseum station to Oakland Airport. ... Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums said he is not seeking a pay raise, despite a report to the contrary in the *Chronicle*. In fact, Dellums' staffers told the *Trib* that he plans to take a 5 percent pay cut in the form of a lump-sum payment. ... Meanwhile, the *East Bay Express* moved its offices to Jack London Square, at 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607. ●

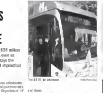
Seven Days is culled from our news blog, 92510, which you can find at EastBayExpress.com/Blogs

ECO WATCH

AC TRANSIT'S HYDROGEN BOONDOGGLE

The agency plans to spend $28 million on hydrogen fuel-cell buses even as the Obama administration says the technology is too costly and impractical.

By Robert Gammon


The $2.25 million buses

Kelly/Flickr (cc)

Earlier this month, the Obama administration all but killed the federal government's hydrogen fuel program. Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu, a former UC Berkeley professor and Nobel Prize winner, believes hydrogen vehicles are still decades away from practical development, primarily because they're far too costly. Chu instead wants to focus scarce federal dollars on developing electric vehicles and hybrids powered by biofuels. Yet despite the administration's decision, AC Transit is forging ahead with its extremely expensive hydrogen bus program. In fact, the cash-strapped agency is about to buy twelve fuel-cell buses for $28 million — a price that could pay for more than 55 new hybrid buses.

But AC Transit isn't the only one to blame for this hydrogen boondoggle. The California Air Resources Board also deserves criticism for effectively mandating AC Transit's costly program. In fact, starting in 2011 the air resources board may require that up to 15 percent of AC Transit's bus purchases be expensive hydrogen buses. The mandate is part of the board's long-term plan to greatly reduce tailpipe emissions throughout the state.

However, the air resources board is now beginning to rethink its mandates. First adopted in 2000, the zero-emission bus regulations were based on an effort to curb air pollution. But now that the state's emphasis has changed to reducing greenhouse gases as quickly as possible to limit the coming global warming crisis, the board is considering whether to relax, or even eliminate, its current requirements. One simple fix would be to require that transit agencies buy hybrid buses because they are affordable and can cut greenhouse emissions by about 33 percent. The air resources board is holding two public workshops on the issue this week. However, at this point it is unclear what the board will do, in part because AC Transit, one of the largest transportation agencies in the state, remains gung-ho for hydrogen.

So why is AC Transit still hot for a technology that the Obama administration and other environmentalists now think is uncool? Some critics note that AC Transit's hydrogen program is tied up with its obsession for Belgian bus manufacturer Van Hool. As this newspaper has previously reported, AC Transit has maintained an exclusive contract with Van Hool since 2002, and has purchased hundreds of the Belgian buses at a time when the agency has struggled financially and despite the fact that Van Hools cost more than some of their American-made counterparts. Agency officials have staunchly defended the buses while at the same time taking repeated junkets to Europe on the taxpayers' dime.

AC Transit began purchasing hydrogen fuel-cell buses from Van Hool in 2005. The first three buses cost $3.16 million each. By comparison, a hybrid-diesel bus sold by Hayward-based manufacturer Gillig currently lists for about $550,000, according to Gillig Vice President Brian McLeod. A regular diesel bus costs about $350,000 to $400,000; most of AC Transit's Van Hool bus fleet are regular diesels. The first three hydrogen buses that AC Transit bought from Van Hool were considered an experimental project that was effectively mandated by the air resources board. The board considers the next twelve hydrogen buses from Van Hool, which will cost about $2.25 million apiece, to be the second phase of AC Transit's research and development program.

The air resources board mandates are part of its zero-emission bus program for large transit agencies — that is, those with at least 200 buses in their fleet. Agencies can meet the mandates three ways: First, by installing electric trolleys. San Francisco's Muni has already met all of the air board's requirements because of its longtime electric trolley system, according to Anna Gremin, an air board staffer. The second way is by buying hydrogen fuel-cell buses. And the third is by purchasing battery-powered electric buses. Los Angeles is taking this route, although battery-powered electrics are not considered suitable for agencies such as AC Transit because they don't perform well on hills and can't go for long distances without recharging. LA plans to use the battery-operated buses on short, flat routes during commute hours, said John Addison at CleanFleetReport.com.

Bus agencies can meet the air board's initial mandates by partnering with each other. AC Transit is the lead partner and chief financier of a consortium with Golden Gate Transit in Marin County, Valley Transportation Authority in Santa Clara County, and SamTrans in San Mateo County. However, the agencies will have to begin purchasing zero-emission buses on their own en masse beginning in 2011 — unless the air resources board relaxes its standards.

Some environmentalists and bus manufacturers contend that it makes much more sense for the air board to switch from a zero-emissions requirement to a low-carbon-emissions one. While it's true that hydrogen fuel-cell buses emit no greenhouse gases, their huge expense makes them impractical for widespread adoption. As a result, they're decades away from affecting global warming, and the requirement that bus agencies begin

Continued on page 8

Train with Solar Staffing.
Attend ongoing classes and begin your Career in solar now!
Offering classes in English and En Español.
Enroll at
www.SolarStaffing.com
or call 866-545-5441
SOLAR STAFFING
Green Employment & Training Solutions

COMMUNITY LIVING
EAST BAY COHOUSING: EVENTS
Know Your Neighbors - Live Green
Affordable Co-op Openings:
West/North Berkeley
This Sunday: Aging In Community (SF Unitarian Church)
Wed eve 6/3: Raw Food/Vegan Sampler (Berkeley)
Fri eve 6/5: Community/Cooperative potluck (Berkeley)
Sat 6/6: [illegible]
www.ebcoho.org (510) 868-1627

EarthSource forest products
Plywood And Lumber Sales, Inc.
1-800 675 7257
www.earthsourcewood.com
Oakland
San Jose
San Francisco
Certified plywood and lumber
- Largest inventory of hardwood plywood and lumber
- Exotic and domestic species
- SmartWood rediscovered and reclaimed Lumber
SCS
THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL
! NEW !
" DUO BENCH "
ON SALE NOW
! Kirei Board Panels !
1 1/4" (30mm) 3 x6' $199.27 ea
3/4" (20mm) 3 x6' $149.45 ea
1/2" (10mm) 3 x6' $118.81 ea

www.symmetrychiropractic.com
Symmetry Chiropractic
numbness & tingling
neck, shoulder & arm pain
Dr Cynthia Boyd D C
Alameda, California
T 510 769 0125
Complimentary consultation available

ECOLOGY CENTER'S
BERKELEY FARMERS' MARKETS
STRAWBERRY TASTING
Tuesday, May 26th, 2pm to 7pm
Tuesday Berkeley Farmers Market
Derby Street @ MLK
TASTING
SAMPLE STRAWBERRIES FROM
CATALAN FARMS, AVALOS FARMS,
SWANTON BERRY FARM
LUCERO FARM, KAKI FARMS, AND MORE!
VISIT OUR FREE SAMPLE TABLE
The Heart of the Fresh, Local Food Movement Since 1987
a program of Ecology Center

SAN FRANCISCO HERB + NATURAL FOOD CO.
4744 Kato Rd. Fremont, Ca. 94538 • 800-227-2830 • 510-770-1215 • Since 1915
OREGON TILTH
CERTIFIED ORGANIC
Certified Importer, Wholesaler & Manufacturer
Loose Herbs & Tea Bags
Bulk Botanicals, Bulk Teas
Culinary Spice Blends
Capsules, Oils, Extracts and Tinctures
CALL FOR A FREE CATALOG! www.herbspicetea.com

Now That's Embarrassing!
50% OFF 2 MONTHS!
StorQuest SELF STORAGE
If You Can Relate...
We Can Help!

Oakland
6401 San Leandro St.
510-382-1600

Oakland
4601 Shattuck Ave.
510-652-4111

San Leandro
1100 Davis Street
510-562-5080

StorQuest SELF STORAGE
www.storquest.com

145 YEARS Heald COLLEGE Education to Last a Lifetime
MEDICAL
INSURANCE BILLING & CODING
9 month program!
Or choose
Dental Assisting
Medical Assisting
Medical Office Administration
Program availability may vary by campus and quarter
Benefit from what we have to offer
Hands-on learning
Small class sizes
Financial aid for those who qualify
Day and evening classes
Lifetime career services assistance for graduates
Bay Area Campuses
San Francisco • San Jose
Hayward • Concord
CALL TODAY
Classes Forming Now!
1.888.276.8297
www.chooseheald.com

AC Transit's Hydrogen Boondoggle

Continued from page 7

buying them in bulk two years from now is a colossal waste of taxpayer money.

By contrast, a switch to hybrid diesel buses could make an immediate impact on greenhouse emissions because hybrids are affordable and already commonplace in the industry. According to Addison of CleanFleetReport.com, hybrids represent one quarter of new bus purchases in the United States. "The question is: 'Does it make sense to follow a zero-emissions path at all?'" said Addison, who also wrote the book *Save Gas, Save the Planet*. "At this point hybrids make a great deal of sense for public transportation."

And it's not as if the air resources board hasn't relaxed its mandates before. Earlier this decade, the board stepped back from its zero-emission standard for cars, light trucks, and SUVs and gave low-emissions credits to hybrids, recognizing that zero-emission vehicles are costly and that hybrid technology is affordable and already established.

Hybrids, in fact, could be especially effective for AC Transit, because the agency operates in a mostly dense, urban area with lots of bus stops. That's an advantage for hybrids because they can switch over to their electric batteries when idling and the batteries recharge when applying the brakes. "Generally, the industry has agreed that hydrogen fuel cell technology is just not realistic, and they've dropped it in favor of hybrids," said McLeod of Gillig, which has been making hybrid diesel buses since 2002.

But AC Transit is bucking the trend, and still believes that hydrogen is the wave of the near future. In fact, the AC Transit board voted last Wednesday 4-2-1 to approve a $1 million no-bid contract with a lithium-ion battery maker to partner with Van Hool in developing the twelve hydrogen fuel cell buses. The only board members to vote against the deal were Elsa Ortiz and Greg Harper (board member Joe Wallace abstained). Harper was visibly frustrated by the idea that AC Transit was plowing ahead with its expensive hydrogen program when the Obama administration was basically abandoning theirs. "If we're going to have a $2 million or $2.25 million bus — that's just as useless to us as if it didn't work," he said. "I think our project now is in trouble."

But the board majority brushed off those concerns. Jaimie Levin, who heads up the agency's hydrogen bus program, is one of the agency's biggest cheerleaders for Van Hools, and has traveled around the world at public expense to find the right battery, said at the meeting that the air resources board considers AC Transit's program to be "the gold standard." That may be true, but it also should be pointed out that neither Levin nor any other AC Transit official noted at the meeting that the air resources board was thinking about relaxing its requirements. Nor was there any recognition that if AC Transit, a major player in the state's transportation world, decided to park its hydrogen program and ask the board to set aside its mandate, it could help save the planet, while saving public funds at the same time. ●

The air resources Northern California workshop is scheduled for Thursday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m. in Sacramento. For more details, go to ARB.ca.gov/msprog/bus/zeb/zeb.htm

Got green ideas? Send tips for stories to EcoWatch@EastBayExpress.com

GreenMotors
ZENN All Electric Cars
• less than 3 cents a mile to drive
• e-Bikes & Electric Scooters
Rebates & Tax Credits avail.
*$9995 Base Price
Brought to you by Green Motors, Zenn and Federal Tax Credits.
GoGreenMotors.com • info@GoGreenMotors.com
(510) 845-4743
*Free gift for Express readers who take a test drive!

RELAX.
TAKE A 60 MINUTE VACATION
COUPLES • SINGLES
FAMILIES ARE WELCOME
CHILDREN UNDER 18 ARE FREE WITH PARENT
THE HOT TUBS
www.thehottubs.com
$10 Off per couple
1915 UNIVERSITY AVE. • BERKELEY • 510-843-4343

NoFu
no • fu\no-fuh\ -noun:
1. a no fuss skincare lifestyle focusing on customized attention and results
Specializing in acne, hyperpigmentation and sensitive skin
Nofu presents:
LED Revitalight Treatment

The Revitalight Skincare System is a safe but effective use of advanced light technology designed to help diminish the visible appearance of fine lines, wrinkles, and age spots on the face, neck and hands by promoting collagen firmness.
Call today to schedule your treatment
1912 Clement Ave. Alameda • 510.521.9100 • nofu.com

CERVEZA
PACIFICO 7oz.
SEVEN OUNCE STORIES
Then we all said "Salud".
- the end -
THE NEW PACIFICO 7-OUNCE
Mexico via Pacifico .com

"Imagine how much cooler I would be if I could move"
EAST BAY EXPRESS
Videography Services
VIDEO ADS AND ONLINE ADVERTISING
Custom jingles and animation
510-879-3700

GONE PHISHING ON CRAIGSLIST

The latest variation on the advance-fee scam exploits the dream of affordable rent.

By Eric Klein

Krystal Taukave was hoping to shorten her daily commute from San Leandro to Berkeley. She went on Craigslist and found a handful of two-bedroom apartments in her price range scattered throughout the East Bay. She contacted each landlord by e-mail. A waterfront apartment in Emeryville, a condo in Berkeley with a washer-dryer and hardwood floors, or a top-floor unit in a Walnut Creek building with ample storage and a pool, each for under $1,000, all seemed too good to be true. And they were.

In response to three different requests for more information, Taukave says she received three identical e-mails from a Pastor Blanca Cococa. "I thought maybe she made a mistake sending the e-mail multiple times."

The e-mail, written in broken English and full of typos, explained that Pastor Cococa had left the country with the only copy of the keys to the unit.

"So me and daughter are here in United Kingdom on a Missionary Work and am with the keys of the house will want to rent out now ... Hope you are okay with the price of ($850 PER MONTH) with hydro, heat, laundry facilities, air condition, Internet connection and so on, i look forward to hearing from you ASAP."

Taukave was aware that the e-mail was a little strange, but she held out hope that things would work out in the end. She really wanted this apartment. She filled out the rental application and e-mailed the Pastor her personal information. Luckily for Taukave this didn't include anything along the lines of bank account or credit card numbers.

In the meantime, Taukave drove by some of the rentals on her list. The South Berkeley condo that Pastor Blanca Cococa claimed to own had a for-sale sign out front. Now totally suspicious, Taukave gave the Realtor a call.

She learned that the condo was not for rent for $850. It was for sale for $269,000.

Thanks to Taukave's call, the real estate agent, Michael Volva, quickly figured out that his original Craigslist ad offering the condo for sale had been copied and pasted into a scam ad.

A recent look at Craigslist uncovered numerous other scam rental ads linked to existing East Bay properties, all offered at a price dramatically lower than the going market rate.

Posing as a would-be renter, a reporter e-mailed individuals posting four such rentals. One turned out to be Pastor Cococa. Two others were also "missionaries," this time "working" in West Africa. They each sent along an "application," an enthusiastic, if not convoluted story and a blessing from God.

Two of the e-mails included Nigerian phone numbers. When contacted by phone, the young man who answered asked a series of "landlord-ish" questions about monthly income and "reasons for leaving your current apartment." He then tried to make arrangements to have first and last month's rent and security deposit wired via Western Union. The reporter said he'd think about it.

Anyone with an e-mail account is no doubt familiar with these "advance-fee fraud" scams, which more often than not seem to come from Nigeria, and traditionally promised large sums of money in exchange for assisting troubled African royalty. Sam Olukoya, a Nigerian journalist, says that young men ranging from "primary school dropouts to university graduates" fill Nigeria's cybercafes by night, working on the scams.

Olukoya says that only a tiny fraction of Nigerians are "fraudsters," but "very many people have become rich overnight from Internet scams and this seems to encourage more and more people to take to the crime."

When one scam gets stale, they adapt. The advance-fee fraud, once known as "The Spanish Prisoner" con, was even being attempted from West Africa by snail mail. But the Internet makes such scams faster, cheaper, and more prolific.

From Milwaukee to the Great Salt Lake, reports of similar rent scams are making the news. One variation currently visible on Craigslist under apartments for rent in the East Bay was also described in a recent post on the site Consumerist.com. The fake landlords (scamlords?) send the following e-mail to interested renters.

"We try to keep our costs and our tenants costs to a minimum so we can rent our units fast and keep them rented."

> A recent look at Craigslist uncovered numerous other scam rental ads linked to existing East Bay properties

Whereupon we are invited to click on a link and fill out a form for a free credit check. Victims of this scam willingly hand over credit card and bank account info.

"What I don't understand is how Craigslist allows someone to take an ad and amend it to their own ends," said Volva, the real estate agent whose ad was copied by the scamlord Taukave encountered. Volva says he took his honest condo listing off Craigslist to avoid any confusion with the copycat version. Volva said he tried to contact Craigslist to alert them to the problem, but when he received an automatically generated reply explaining the high volume of customer complaints the free, online classified site receives, Volva decided it wasn't worth the trouble to jump through any more hoops.

Volva says he'd like Craigslist to be more responsive to his concerns, which he imagines are concerns shared by his colleagues in the Realtor community.

Craig Newmark, founder and head of customer service for the site, responded promptly to an e-mail regarding the scam. He requested links to the offending ad and 33 minutes later he sent the following e-mail.

"Thanks! Already gone, looking for more by same guy — Craig"

Yet Newmark declined to answer questions regarding the scams, such as: How can Craigslist protect renters and Realtors?

As for Taukave, she's now staying put in San Leandro. "I'm pretty naive when it comes to this sorta thing, but I learned my lesson." ◆

LOOKING FOR CREATIVE WAYS
TO CARRY YOUR BRAND?
Welcome to the future of promotional products!
FAABranding.com offers a wide selection of top quality promotional products, including eco-friendly items.
We offer 100% Made in USA products as well.

YOUR
LOGO
HERE

PROforma
Select your item and we'll put your logo on it.
Call 877.842.0020 for Logo Design
FAABRANDING.COM

Scavenging makes more sense than ever in the current economy

Stephen Loo

THE SCAVENGING ISSUE

THE SCAVENGER'S MANIFESTO

Scavengers know that the difference between brand-new full-price products and their scratched secondhand counterparts is just debt.

By Anneli Rufus

On a warm sunny Saturday we are headed for a family birthday party. We're in Berkeley. The party's in Benicia; we're already late, and so we're warning each other: *Not one more delay*. But then, crossing Solano Avenue, we see a yard-sale sign. Wordlessly we diverge from our route, arching left to where balloons mark the spot halfway down the block.

It's a big one, stretching from two blue satin cushions propped against a telephone pole all the way up a driveway and across a lawn strewn with clothes, books, tools, kitchenware, toys. As luck would have it, the sale is ending just as we arrive. From her porch, the seller announces that the sale is over and everything is free.

Not all sales end this way. Some folks pack their unsold stuff back up and haul it inside or drive it to Goodwill. Some, though, give it all away. When that happens, the air begins to buzz and everything speeds up. Hands dart. Receptacles are sought to hold the DVDs, the baseball mitt, the vase.

At any free-for-all you can immediately spot the inexperienced. Gobsmacked and half-embarrassed, they hover over pomanders and clocks but reach for nothing, as if fearing germs or tricks or being called thieves.

And you can spot the scavengers. We glide, our movements purposeful and lithe. Our eyes cut wide arcs, back and forth, as we reach with one hand for shirts — stripes, button-down, shiny — and with the other for swim goggles, garden gloves, a blender. Yank! Into the backpack, pops the spoon, the copper horse, the coffeepot. Quick. Competent. Assess each item in a nanosecond. Do I want that? Do I need it? Does my friend?

We will be late to the party. And when we get there and they ask why we were late and we say we were scavenging free clothes and toys and kitchenware from a stranger's lawn, they laugh. They think we're joking. When they see we're not, they scrunch up their noses and ask: *But why? Wasn't it dirty? What if someone bled on those shirts? What if someone cooked meth in that coffeepot? What if the blender's broken? Can't you afford gloves?*

We hear this all the time.

And: *What if that thing doesn't fit?*

What if it's dented/scratched/stained/faded/ripped?

Wouldn't you rather just go to a store and buy the exact color/size/style/components you like best?

Well, no.

Because, all around the world, a change is afoot. The way in which human beings acquire stuff is shifting. Expanding. Forever. All around the world, millions are salvaging stuff, trading stuff, recycling stuff. This is the end of the shopping monopoly.

Chris Duffey

All around the world, we are scavenging. Today that doesn't mean only the squalid ragpicking it used to mean. So many pursuits count as scavenging today. They can no longer be tucked into any one little category. In our new book *The Scavengers' Manifesto* my coauthor Kristan Lawson and I define scavenging as any legal means of acquiring stuff that does not involve paying full price. That includes everything from thrift shopping to swapping to bartering to coupon clipping to Freecycling to seeking out the sale racks at Macy's. In the broadest sense, you scavenge just by tracking down a bargain.

But four thousand years of antiscavenger prejudice dies hard.

Pretty much since the dawn of civilization when hunting and gathering was suddenly seen as primitive, this practice of collecting the lost and discarded, the fallen and unwanted, has been scorned. We see it derided in Leviticus and in modern popular culture, where athletic teams are named after predators and carnivores — and the occasional herbivore, if you count mustangs and bulls. But you never see a sports team named the Hyenas or the Roaches. Scavengers get no respect, even though roaches actually run faster than cheetahs for their sizes and even though all scavengers play crucial roles in ecosystems, working as nature's cleanup crews, and even though our closest evolutionary cousins are omnivores, which means that chimpanzees and *Homo sapiens* are all scavengers deep down.

But hey. In times of economic tankage, scavengers know what everyone else now needs to learn, like it (and us) or not.

For a long time now, the very idea of getting stuff by any means outside the standard retail channel and at any speed but warp speed was anathema. A sacrilege. A sin. Not long ago, all of American society pledged loyalty to new-and-improved products. Not shopping was treason. An abomination. But times have changed. Goods and services now circle and circle the world, connecting strangers, without a penny spent.

Well, that took long enough.

My coauthor and I have both scavenged for as long as we can remember. We didn't know each other when we were kids, but both of us picked up spare change from the street as soon as we could walk. I grew up near a beach and was frequently taken there. Found shells, smooth pebbles, sea glass, driftwood, sand, and dried seaweed turned into countless dollhouse furnishings and early art projects even before the first day of first grade. He grew up in Berkeley, where friendly hippies at neighborhood communes showed him how to construct furniture from scrap wood and pick plums from sidewalk trees. Ten years before we met, both of us bought metal detectors, in both cases going halfsies on the purchase with our best friends, and in both cases choosing the cheapest Radio Shack model. Once we met — both that night wearing thrift-shop clothes — neither of us ever had to explain or apologize to the other for bending down to pick up pennies or for lifting trash-can lids to peer inside. We have watched (former) friends look on in horror as we do these things.

Sometimes scavenging is the Great Divide.

Some folks scavenge for fun. Some scavenge to save. Money. The world. While millions all around us drown in debt, we scavengers liberate ourselves with every cent we save while liberating tons of would-be garbage. How can we tell typical consumers that every saved penny counts? That saved pennies add up? They call us cheap. They call us poor. No matter how or why you do it, even if you're just reusing Christmas ribbon or picking fruit in a vacant lot, some will consider you a dangerous radical. Yet the typical consumer carries a four-figure debt. How can we make them understand that they accumulated those debts by paying full price? How can we say: What would you prefer, discount-outlet food and library DVDs and thrift-shop shirts and no debt, or restaurant food, cinema tickets, department-store clothes and debt? Scavengers know that the difference between brand-new full-price products and their scratched secondhand counterparts is — debt.

Some folks scavenge to recycle. Repurpose. Reduce. Reuse. They know that some 200 million tons

Continued on page 13

THE ONLY ONE

MADE WITH 100% ORGANIC TOBACCO

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT NATURAL AMERICAN SPIRIT VISIT
www.TryAmericanSpirit.com or call 1-800-872-6460 ext. 50187

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

No additives in our tobacco does **NOT** mean a safer cigarette.

SWAP LOCALLY

Can you say "makeover"? The Bay Area's most dedicated swapaholic can help you go from packrat to best-dressed eco-conscious philanthropist in half an hour

By [illegible] Wagner

Ever notice how the things you just can't get enough of are the same things you have too many of? Like all the skirts, shoes and accessories spilling from your closet that you never wear but can't part with? I cannot. You can buy less stuff, dispose of less stuff and still be fashionable. And you don't have to dress like a Wal-Mart model to cut your clothing budget to almost zero. Even dressing for success — or for excess — doesn't have to break the bank. Just turn that overflowing wardrobe into currency by swapping it for some fresh duds.

Suzanne Agasi, a self-titled "philanthropreneur" who values creativity over commerce, started holding small clothing-swap events about fifteen years ago to help people recycle and socialize at the same time. Thrifty fashion wasn't as hip then as it is now, but there was always a dedicated core of resourceful clotheshorses who wanted to economize but didn't want to look like they shopped at the church basement rummage sale. After a while, Agasi saw opportunities to harness fellow swappers' collective goodwill for charity. Now that shopping on a budget is as stylish as driving a hybrid and growing your own arugula, she's turned her hobby into a nonprofit organization called Diva Eve, which holds swanky, friendly events for women — and occasionally men — at bars, cafes, and nail salons around the Bay Area and Sacramento.

"I'm a woman, what do I want?" Agasi asked, explaining some of the needs her organization strives to meet. "I want chocolate. I want spa treatment."

Swappers pay a cover charge (usually $10-$20), drop off their stylish but unneeded clothing (there's a five-item minimum), indulge in a martini, a massage, a manicure, and maybe some dessert, then sift through tables of new-to-them clothing. Diva Eve sometimes tailors events to a certain niche clientele so plus-sized women, teens, and recently, men, can swap with their fashion peers.

"My events are set up so you basically get pampered and rewarded for cleaning out your closet," Agasi said. She doesn't stop at providing small luxuries, though. She operates like a human Facebook; when she talks about helping people network, her voice lights up. If she sees a woman in need and a woman with more than she needs, she'll find a way to get them connected, whether it's a *Sex in the City* fan who needs a gently used Prada purse or a woman in a homeless shelter trying to dress for a job interview. "No matter where you're in your life, whether you're on a budget or you're a clotheshorse, clothing swaps are for you," she said.

Agasi added that women whose bodies are transitioning, whether because they're pregnant or halfway through Weight Watchers, tend to find the idea of swapping more approachable than purchasing a whole new wardrobe.

She also uses swapping events as a way to showcase her acquaintances who own or run small businesses. "I strive to put businesswomen on a pedestal," Agasi said. Photography studios and tanning salons are among sponsors who've set up booths at events.

"Every single one of my events benefits a nonprofit," she said. She donates clothes that go unswapped to women's shelters or charity organizations. She added, "They get a ton of PR. A lot of women want to volunteer to work at one. In December, I encourage women to bring for the toy drive, too."

While spreading around resources, Agasi never forgets the rule that originally motivated her to swap. Dressing fabulously on a budget is even better than shopping retail. She said, "I believe women that thrift are very stylish," and added that she's even seen swapping inspire people to try a whole new look, experimenting with items of clothing they might overlook if they were paying full price. "If you don't like it, there's no shopping remorse, you just bring it to the next swap." ■

To stay informed about upcoming swaps, sign up for Diva Eve's e-mail list at ClothingSwap.org.

The Scavenger's Manifesto

Continued from page 11

of trash is thrown out every year in the United States alone. In New York City, 54,000 tons per week.

Some scavenge to revolt.

Some scavenge to survive.

Some scavenge for the sake of spontaneity. We crave the long-forgotten magic of the random.

Some scavenge for art. Some scavenge for adventure. Some scavenge for self-sufficiency. For some, scavenging is a test. For some, it's spiritual.

We do not all scavenge for the same reasons, yet we share certain understandings, certain values, certain principles. We share a way of life. A way of looking at the world. Having, each of us, shattered the chains that locked us to consumer culture, we walk free under a clear new sky, scanning a changed terrain studded with buried treasure.

We seek but do not always find. This makes each find a miracle.

Amen.

For the authors, scavenging means never having to say you're sorry for checking out potential loot. Ira [illegible]

Admit that you have scavenged anything and expect questions. Misconceptions. Misperceptions. Even accusations. One friend tells me that she cannot even imagine donning a garment that someone else has worn before. The very idea, she says, disgusts her. Another friend buys used clothing, no problem, but avoids my favorite discount food store, Grocery Outlet, because "it's like shopping in a warehouse." And if that warehouse stocks organic, fair-trade, and top-brand products just a little closer to their expiration dates than identical merchandise at ordinary supermarkets for half price or less, what's not to like? Another friend looks at me pityingly and says, "How can you stand making such sacrifices? I would never want to walk past Starbucks and think, *I refuse on principle to buy a Frappuccino*."

Silly consumer: that's no sacrifice. To me, saving four dollars is a victory.

How do we tell them how it is for us? How do we tell them that, for us, old stuff and stuff that has been owned before attains a patina composed of history and mystery, almost a soul? How do we say that a shiny new nickel is just cash to us, but

Continued on page 25

A smart look at the day's local news.

JP Painting Company
License #541269
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
Well established business with all the equipment and the know-how to provide you with answers to your painting/preparation/color problems, giving you the results you desire.
FREE ESTIMATES on residential and commercial. Special FX painting, Faux Finish.
Satisfaction guaranteed. Many References. Thousands of photos.
MENTION THIS AD AND GET A
20% Discount
Juan Verde
510-524-4366
juant234@sbcglobal.net

Gilman Collision Repair
Accidents Happen!
www.gilmancollision.com

YOUR STARTER AND

YOUR CLOSER.

From the first pitch to the last out, the refreshing taste of Bud Light won't fill you up and never lets you down. Bud Light. **THE DIFFERENCE IS DRINKABILITY.**

OAKLAND
A's
ATHLETICS
TM
BUD LIGHT
BEER
SUPERIOR DRINKABILITY

The Scavenger's Manifesto

Continued from page 13

an undated greenish 1978 nickel, worn so smooth that Thomas Jefferson lacks eyes, catches us, sets our minds skittering up and down the years wondering *who held this coin where, when, why.* How do we tell standard consumers that new merchandise bores and depresses us? That mass production makes them into drones. How do we tell them we despair for those who spend $65 at the store on the same shirt that costs (or will within a year) $3 at the thrift shop? How can we explain the size of landfills, the amount of solid waste now littering the earth? Do we describe the ten million pounds of trash now floating on the seas? Do we say that by scavenging, we make a dent in that?

How do we tell them we appreciate our scavenged goods in ways they cannot possibly appreciate their brand new full price purchases? How can we say that every scavenged item reached us in a unique, often unexpected way so each one adds another story to our lives? How can we say: *Full price shopping is easy, but scavenging takes talent, luck, skill, and expertise? Thus every scavenged item is a reward or a miracle.* How can we explain that not paying full price for things gives us the best assessment of true value: We appreciate our scavenged goods not for how much they cost us but for what they have been through and what they are.

We like surprises.

In a processed, paved-over, predictable consumer culture, surprises are rare. That primal incomparable thrill — *Hello, what's this?* — harks back to an age before brands were flags and stores civilizations. Surprise harks back to a natural, spontaneous world in which anything can happen. Good things. Bad things. Things in between. But *beyond our control* and all the more awesome for that.

Whether we scavenge nonstop or selectively, it always entails a surprise. When we eschew want-get, we never know what we will get or where or when or how or even if. This sustains sensations in us that standard consumers lost long ago: Uncertainty. Search-and-discovery. The sudden hallelujah.

Standard consumers are numb to these. A thirst for surprise has been doggedly bred out of them. Consumer culture teaches them: Surprise is dangerous.

Sometimes it is.

Sometimes surprises ache. Sometimes they make your day. They are sunbursts and lightning cracks that make you feel totally real because surprises can't be replicated, can't be duplicated, can't be manufactured, can't be packaged, and can't be mass produced.

You can't predict them. That's the point.

Surprise is absolutely raw.

By virtue of the magic of the random, most scavenged finds feel like gifts whose meaning — *Aha, a Hello Kitty desk lamp!* — we will someday grasp. This makes them numinous. If we have any faith, it is in luck. Everyday grails. Some scavengers procure commodities: They barter and resell. For some, scavenging is an ethos, not a source of income but an income extender as Hamburger Helper extends ground beef. The more we find, the less we buy.

Some draw the line at Dumpster food and some do not. We all have our limits.

I haven't bought *Continued on page 16*

THE SCAVENGING ISSUE

SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE

Two Berkeley authors explain how sharing can save the planet.

By Matthew Craggs

Children learn to cover their mouths when they cough, to not disrupt others by talking during movies, and to share their toys with other boys and girls. But somewhere along the line, we all lose that interest in sharing. According to two Berkeley attorneys, if Americans shared more of their material goods and time with each other, we could all make a significant dent in the economic and environmental problems facing our households and the world.

"There are so many things that each of us have and use that could be shared," said Emily Doskow, the coauthor with Janelle Orsi of the forthcoming book *The Sharing Solution*. In their book, which comes out in June, the authors provide a how-to approach to forming sharing arrangements. These arrangements can help people organize a small or large group to share material goods, responsibilities, or basic needs.

The book addresses what someone should consider before entering into such agreements, the legal logistics, and how to ensure that everyone gets the most out of sharing. Small material items, such as rakes or even suits, may require less legal paperwork than cohabitation or forming a neighborhood babysitting co-op, but both situations can be beneficial on multiple levels, Doskow believes.

"The way that our society is using resources is not going to work out in the long haul," Doskow said. "The amount of stuff we consume is not workable. So any solution, whether it's recycling, reusing, or sharing, makes a dent and produces a positive good." The authors believe that sharing can address the so-called triple bottom line by reaping financial, environmental, and personal and social benefits. Orsi sees their guide as a great place to start for people who know they want to share but don't know how to begin.

Say two neighbors both need a new lawnmower. If they were to pool their money and buy one communal lawnmower to share, they could hit all three of the bullet points. Each neighbor would save 50 percent on the cost of the mower, the manufacturer would use half the resources and energy it would have taken to build two machines, and the neighbors become closer, strengthening a community bond.

"People can just start to look at what their needs are," Orsi said. "If their goals are to save money, then they can look at what's costing them the most money in their lives. If their goal is to live sustainably, they can look at their carbon footprint. Or maybe they're just looking to meet more people or have a sense of community."

Orsi, who shares office space with Doskow and four other lawyers, goes one step further and envisions sharing as a means of meeting people's basic needs. "In my ideal world, the world's resources would be distributed so much differently," she said. "Many of people's material needs aren't being met. We have so many resources. The way they're distributed is inefficient and causes a lot of suffering in the world. A car sits in a parking lot all day while you're at work, or a vacuum cleaner is used only once a month. We have all these resources sitting there and people's needs just are not being met."

So what keeps us from sharing? When did we lose the ability to share a cookie? A lot of it probably has to do with fear. "Worrying about people encroaching too much on your personal boundaries deters a lot of us from wanting to do more things cooperatively," Orsi said. *The Sharing Solution* doesn't spend an extensive amount of time on personal space and conflict resolution because the authors focus on building strong communication skills and developing a clear understanding of any potential disagreements. These preventative measures, they say, open the doors to a more trusting and honest relationship.

"The more we share, the more we trust each other, and society will become a safer place," Orsi said. "If we have people coming in and out of our garage to borrow a barbecue, we're going to be surrounded by people we can trust. People in neighborhoods will be that much more connected to each other, and it makes the world a much safer, gentler, and more humane place to live."

To a die-hard American capitalist taught to covet promotions, wealth, and material goods, the word "socialism" may come to mind. However, sharing is the basis for many of America's biggest capitalist endeavors. Every year we pay state and federal taxes for the maintenance of our highways. Water, electricity, and gas are all public utilities that we, as a society, jointly pay for each month. *Monopoly*, the unabashed cheerleader of capitalism, didn't forget to put in squares for Water Works and Income Tax, after all. Still, there's something deeply ingrained in our society that causes us hesitation when it comes to communal endeavors. "Our culture itself is so structured for people to be insular," Doskow said. "We're not necessarily isolated because often we're insular with other people."

The book will be full of worksheets, sample agreements, and resources for people who want to become better sharers, and for those who never forgot their playground lessons. What readers won't find is preaching about how to save the planet and lighten your household budget at the expense of gas-guzzling Hummers and imported Italian handbags.

"When I talk about *The Sharing Solution*, the vast majority of people are excited," Doskow said. "But I come across people who say, 'Absolutely not! I couldn't possibly share my stuff. I don't want to have to communicate with a neighbor when I want to use my own grill.' My response is: Fair enough, not everyone has to share." The attorneys stress to do what works for you. Doskow, who shares baseball season tickets and is part of a neighborhood work group that pools resources to enable basic home repairs, understands that people have limits.

"Nobody can touch my Easter candy," she said. ●

Hey, We Can See the Port From Here

(The East Bay Express has moved.)

Our new address is
620 3rd St.,
Oakland, 94607

EAST BAY EXPRESS

style meets value

Now accepting more insurance plans than ever!

Site for Sore Eyes

$100 OFF [illegible] 2ND PAIR

$99 FOR 8 BOXES [illegible]

2174 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley (510) 841-6963
SiteForSoreEyes.com

30 YEARS

Book an eye exam appointment online today.
Eye examinations are available by Sterling VisionCare, a California-licensed Vision Health Care Service Plan.

SWEET FINGERS
Delivering the Finest in Jamaican Food

SATURDAY MAY 23RD, 2009
Celebrating our 2 Year Anniversary

You are invited to Join the Sweet Fingers Family in the Celebration of the Best Caribbean food in the Bay Area since 2007

COME FOR THE FOOD AND DRINK SPECIALS!

CELEBRATION WILL INCLUDE
All the Reggae, Dancehall and Hip Hop you can handle. Music provided by [illegible]
The Wicked Chef-DJ [illegible] and live performance by [illegible] Band

[illegible]

TWO FOR ONE DINNER SPECIAL $35

Sweet Fingers 464 E. 14th St. San Leandro, CA 510 553.9869

The Scavengers Manifesto

Continued from page 15

new clothes in as long as I can remember. I last bought an umbrella in 1996. Faced with a choice, we always ask: Is there a way to do this/get this/eat this legally for free? It is a reflex. *Not* scavenging feels unnatural. Just going somewhere, paying full price for something as everyone else does, feels weird.

We live in the land of the (literally) free.

To us $10 is a lot.

Scavengers touch the ground: not clean, you say. Bacterial specimens, you say. Who dares finger the sidewalk and street? The scavenger as vector. In actual fact the ground is not so bad. We ride AC Transit buses and BART and we have seen what respectable-looking people smear on straps and seats and rails. *That's* gross.

All scavengers can't be lumped together. You and me and that goateed guy all reaching at the exact same time for the paperback *Lord of the Flies* at the rummage sale and those free brownies at the art-gallery reception might never be friends. We might fight over sports or politics or style. We might draw blood. We neither look nor talk alike. We don't even scavenge alike.

Yet in a lot of ways, we think and feel alike.

The basic order of consumerthink is: want, get. From infancy, typical consumers learn that whatever they want, they get. They *must* get it. They will. Right *now*. Whatever it costs. Consumer culture teaches that instant gratification is a basic human right. Consumer culture teaches that waiting is torture. Consumer culture teaches: You are entitled to whatever you desire. *Volo ergo sum*. Much of modern identity is shaped by what kind of shopper you are. We are bred in this culture to define each other by how much we spend and where on what.

Scavengers step out of this loop. Because we never know what we will get, where we will get it, or how or when or even if, we cannot be read or defined according to the standards a consumer culture says to use. So in one sense, we are invisible. We are not a demographic. In one sense we do not exist.

The very principle of scavenging makes want-get pretty much impossible. It also makes want-get seem ludicrous. We do not expect to get everything we want.

Thus we want less.

We get — whatever comes our way. Wherever and whenever. We are grateful then. But we do not spend our days driven to satisfy our wants.

We can't.

For us it is get, want.

We always get *something*, sooner or later. But in flipping the equation, scavengers have traded choice for chance.

We like chance. Relish chance. Removing standard shopping from our lives means removing a major source of certainty, i.e. want-get. It is that certainty on which standard consumers base their lives, which they think is a right, and on which they rely. Removing it from our lives is the only fundamental choice scavengers make.

Scavengers choose never to choose.

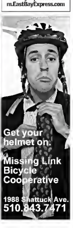
And by eschewing certainty and choice — by choice — scavengers hold a separate set of values. An exciting, inspiring, invigorating set.

We sing their anthem backward. No wonder we scare them. ●

This is an excerpt from The Scavengers' Manifesto (Tarcher Penguin 2009).

What's in the Galleries and Museums?

Find out at EastBayExpress.com & m.EastBayExpress.com


Get your helmet on.
Missing Link Bicycle Cooperative
1988 Shattuck Ave.
510.843.7471

TOUR DE FAT
FAT TIRE
AMBER ALE
NEW BELGIUM
BREWED AND BOTTLED BY
NEW BELGIUM BREWING • FORT COLLINS, CO, USA
Ride to newbelgium.com for a chance to win a cruiser
NEW BELGIUM BREWING

Fat Tire Amber Ale inspired our philanthropic folly, The Tour de Fat, which travels the western land celebrating The Bicycle, a two wheeled wonder that inspired Fat Tire Amber Ale

2008 TOUR DE FAT

MINNEAPOLIS • CHICAGO • SEATTLE • PORTLAND • BOISE • FORT COLLINS
DENVER • SAN FRANCISCO • SAN DIEGO • TEMPE • AUSTIN

Paid Advertisement

Tech Talk

provided by:

Janus Networks

CubeTree: A Step Forward for Office Communication

by Mielle Sullivan, Janus Networks

Inter-office communication can be complicated. There are lots of messages: messages for you, messages for your team, messages for your branch or company as a whole, interesting articles coworkers share... the list goes on. To often all of these messages can end up in a big pile in your inbox-- where they can easily be lost. A new startup, CubeTree, address some of the challenges of workplace communication through a platform inspired by social networking.

In CubeTree, employees can create a profile, send out micro-updates, "follow" other coworkers, share documents, set up wikis, and much more. One particularly useful feature is the search tool-- great for finding documents created by coworkers and filed with mysterious logic. The passive sharing of micro-updates for non essential information, like industry articles, is convenient because it helps reduce emails and therefore the chances that an important message will be buried.

Setup is quick and painless. Because CubeTree exists in the cloud, there is nothing to install. Just sign up for one of their three subscription levels and begin. Most employees will already be familiar with the social networking environment, so training is minimal. CubeTree also easily incorporates information from other commonly used office programs, such as Google Reader, Salesforce and Tripit trips.

Of course CubeTree is not the only company to take an idea that evolved in the social space and use it for the workplace. Yammer is already the standard for business micro messaging. SocialText delivers workplace wiki solutions and LinkedIn is the site for professional profiles. But CubeTree offers it all, on one platform, with superior security assurance because the founders come straight from Symantec, an IT security leader.

For all its functionality, CubeTree is not an office suite. It doesn't compete with any of the standard business software but rather stands along side it. CubeTree is a complimentary office tool to help coworkers stay more organized and in better communication-- something nearly every workplace could use in today's hyper-information age.

You can contact the Author at press@janusnetworks.com

Microsoft Small Business Specialist

Janus Networks, Inc
EMAIL sales@janusnetworks.com
888.836.2310

Microsoft GOLD CERTIFIED Partner

THE SCAVENGING ISSUE

THE ANTI GOLD DIGGER

Who needs boyfriends
when you can have sponsors?
At one point, Eve had six of them

By Kathleen Richards

Eve gets hit on a lot. At the gas station, at Home Depot, at Starbucks — almost anywhere. It doesn't matter if she's feeling totally frumpy or wearing pajamas. "I'm not like, totally into myself. I don't think I'm super fine," said the 32-year-old single mother, who lives in Berkeley. In response to men's pickup lines, she has developed an entirely different system of dealing with the opposite sex. When a man she deems worthy of her time hits on her, Eve tells him where she has a job opening.

Where many women might evaluate men based on their potential as boyfriends or husbands, Eve evaluates them based on their potential as "sponsors" or "friends." "I tell them, I have sponsors and I have a friend. No applications for friend right now, 'cause I have [a] friend. But I have sponsors," said Eve, not her real name.

"I tell them, 'We'll never have sex. I'll never kiss you. I may give you a hug, high-five, thumbs up, something like that, but it'll never go any further. This is what we do, this is how we hang out.' And it kinda works. It's almost like having a male best friend with knowing that there's no strings attached." In fact, Eve has had a "gas sponsor," a "breakfast, lunch, and dinner sponsor," a "movie sponsor," even a "cuddle sponsor." At one point, she had as many as six separate sponsors.

Seeking goods and services from a mate or partner is by no means revolutionary. Browse through the Craigslist personals and you'll find plenty of women and men looking for sugar daddies or sugar mommas, as well as those offering financial assistance in exchange for companionship or sex. "In exchange for your fun, intimate companionship, I will be glad to help you with some of your financial expenses," read one such ad. Here's another: "I am looking to hookup with a cute smooth str8/bi white guy. I know the economy is down and a little extra cash would help. So i dont mind helping, as long as i get what i need." And of course, there are dedicated sites for gold diggers and their sponsors, such as SeekingArrangement.com and SugarDaddie.com. But a gold digger she is not, Eve insists.

"I despise gold diggers," she said. "I think gold diggers are, like, pathetic. I think women are pathetic when they use their assets — the wrong assets — to obtain things. Because just your personality should be able to get someone to want to spend time with you or even want to buy lunch for you." Eve says some of her friends who are gold diggers haven't been as successful as her because "they're super shallow." Or if they do get Gucci bags or paid vacations, Eve believes sex is most definitely involved. "They have to be screwing them," she said. "Like girl, your coochie is not that good, because if it was that good, you would've already married one."

Although none of Eve's sponsors would agree to be interviewed — Eve says they don't want to look like "suckas," though she stressed that they aren't — she says her sponsor arrangements have been successful. In fact, she says, all her former sponsors are now genuine friends. The key to keeping everyone happy, she believes, is honesty and respect. "I'm not a player. I'm just honest," she said. "A player has different schemes. And I don't have all of those things. The only thing I have is my honesty. So either you're just gonna take it or you're just gonna go, and that's okay because I'll probably go to the next gas station or to the next liquor store and someone else is gonna try to get my phone number."

Eve did not stumble upon this arrangement by accident. She got the idea nine years ago from her ex-boyfriend's sixty-year-old aunt, who was then newly widowed. "She was going to the movies with this guy," Eve recalled. "And then this other guy he liked to buy her Coach purses. ... And then she had this other guy she went to the symphony with — that was her classical music friend. So I'm like, what's up with that? Then I knew she had a 'special' friend, so I kinda confused all the guys as one, and she's like, 'No, my friend is my friend.' Friend friend, that's what she calls him."

So Eve decided to try it out for herself, in part because her past relationships had soured her on marriage. "I'm very skeptical about marriage because it doesn't have the same value system that it had," she said. "People aren't like my parents and like your parents. It doesn't mean anything. Everyone's into it for business or for the come-up, so I don't want to be someone's ladder."

Eve has had a "gas sponsor," a "breakfast, lunch, and dinner sponsor," a "movie sponsor," even a "cuddle sponsor." At one point, she had as many as six separate sponsors

In other words, it's not so much out of economic necessity as it is about practicality. She does not call her sponsors when her gas tank is low or when she's hungry, but if they're spending time together, it is understood that they have a specific activity they will do together — and the guy will pay for it.

These days, Eve has toned down her sponsor relationships, she says, mostly because she doesn't have as much free time now that she has kids. "Now that I'm a parent, I guess that kinda changed my outlook on things," she said. "So it's like my needs have changed. I don't really need all of the little minor things anymore. ... Like, the movie friend is more valuable now than the breakfast, lunch, and dinner friend and gas friend."

Ironically, Eve believes that such relationships — while admittedly set up to protect her from the very pitfalls she believes relationships have become — ultimately may lead to stronger bonds. "I've just matured to the point that I wish that other people had, and the people that had are my sponsors and my friend," she said. "And it's, like, not that I'm so exclusive, but I think if we all kind of thought like that, we would revert back to more like what our parents were in having long-lasting relationships that actually mean something." ●

mountainfilm
in berkeley

CELEBRATING INDOMITABLE SPIRIT

A mini film festival at the David Brower Center
The first annual Mountainfilm Berkeley is a mini festival of leading independent documentary films from around the world.

FILMS

At the Edge of the World
San Francisco Premiere!

Directed by Dan Stone. The Farley Mowat and Robert Hunter fly a defiant flag in today's international waters, the skull and crossbones. Paul Watson—who is familiar to Mountainfilm audiences as the founder of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society—is the captain and commander of these ships and doesn't apologize for the Jolly Roger flags or his renegade methods. He believes his approach is the best method to end the slaughter of whales in the southern seas. In this film, Watson has assembled a crew of earnest, but often inexperienced volunteers to travel with him to Antarctic waters. (USA, 2008, 85 min)

Show times: Saturday May 23 at 6:30 p.m. | Sunday May 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Carts of Darkness

Directed by Murray Siple. This film follows a group of homeless men in Vancouver, B.C., who, finding themselves on the edge of society, numb their pain with alcohol or thrill-seeking, with these perilous descents in purloined shopping carts. (Canada, 2007, 58 min)

Show times: Saturday May 23 at 9 p.m. | Sunday May 24 at 2:30 p.m.

Journey of a Red Fridge

Directed by Lucian & Natasa Muntean. Hari Rai is a 17 year old student who lives in a small village in Nepal. To support himself and pay for his education, he works as a porter. In this documentary, Rai is hired to carry a Coca-Cola refrigerator to a repair shop, and the footage follows him through Nepal's stunning mountainscape. (Serbia/Montenegro, 2007, 55 min)

Show times: Saturday, May 23 at 4 p.m. | Sunday May 24 at 5 p.m.

DAVID BROWER CENTER
WHAT WE SEE YOU

**For tickets, call 1-800-838-3006
or visit brownpapertickets.com**
Doors and box office open 30 minutes prior to show time

**www.browercenter.org | 2150 Allston Way
Berkeley, CA 94704 | Phone 510-809-0900**

BUY • SELL • TRADE

WE PAY MORE

CURRENT FASHION | WOMEN'S & MEN'S CLOTHES, SHOES & ACCESSORIES
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY | CASH ON THE SPOT | FRIENDLY BUYERS

Photo: [illegible]

CROSSROADS TRADING CO.

BERKELEY 2338 shattuck av. 510.843.7600 • OAKLAND 5636 college av. 510.420.1952
SAN FRANCISCO 1519 haight st. 415.355.0555 • 2123 market st. 415.552.8740
630 irving st. 415.681.0100 • 1901 fillmore st. 415.775.8885
www.crossroadstrading.com

Keep it Local!

Eat, Drink, Shop... and Bank

Keep More Money in your Own Pocket and in the Local Economy

OneCalifornia Bank is a
community bank focused on
serving East Bay & Bay Area individuals,
small businesses, and non-profits

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

OneCalifornia Foundation
helps you shop with
local, independent
businesses and artists at
www.oaklandunwrapped.org

Come visit us at 1430 Webster St. in downtown Oakland
510.550.8400 www.onecalbank.com

oakland grown OneCalifornia Bank is a proud sponsor of the Shop Oakland Grown campaign.

HW
Harlan Wong, O.D.
Eye Exam, Glasses + 2 Pairs of Contacts
$182
Eye Exam + 4 Boxes of Contacts
$154
1828 Shattuck, Berkeley
510 843 4030

COPYEDGE
digital printing
Send us your files & We do the rest!
b&w copy 3¢
8.5x11" 20lb white
no minimum
color copy 39¢
8.5x11" reg. laser
no minimum
Digital file handling B&W $2/file Color $3/file
2121 University Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 845-5702
sales@copyedge.com
www.copyedge.com

VitaminExpress
A trustworthy name since 1980
Your vitamin specialty shop!
From Jarrow
Guaranteed Potency
30 Caps
Reg. 24.95
SALE 17.95
1400 Shattuck Avenue @ Rose
Berkeley (510) 841 1798
Monday thru Saturday 10:00am to 6:00pm
Mail order (800) 500-0733
or online at VitaminExpress.com

For a while, the demand for recycled materials simply disappeared. Rob Kelly

THE SCAVENGING ISSUE

A BAD ECONOMY IS BAD FOR RECYCLING

Is an imminent rise in local garbage collection rates a direct result of the drop in global recycling prices?

By Rob Kelly

Last October, as economies tanked around the world, one local sign of global recession managed to go mostly unnoticed. The "mosquito fleet" — those rickety pickups tricked out with plywood sides and packed with piles of cardboard — began to vanish from East Bay streets. Nicknamed by the waste industry for its relentless pesklness, the mosquito fleet isn't prone to staying gone long. The disappearance lasted only a few weeks before the scavengers showed up again. But their brief absence was indicative of just how bad things got for the recycling sector, which saw the bottom fall out so hard and so fast that even its scrappiest freelancers stayed home.

"That crash was stunning even by the standards of the recycling markets, which are accustomed to volatility," said Peter Slote, a recycling specialist for the City of Oakland. In the course of six weeks, the price of used cardboard — the "bellwether grade" of recycled paper commodities, according to Slote — dropped from almost $200 per ton in September to between $30 and $40 per ton in early November. By mid-November, the price of mixed office paper was down 52 percent, newspaper was also down 52 percent, and scrap steel had fallen 80 percent in four months time.

Benicia-based Pacific Rim Recycling had taken to leasing warehouse space in Oakland to store its suddenly unmarketable recyclables from Contra Costa curbsides. Berkeley's Ecology Center, the nonprofit that in 1973 began one of the nation's first curbside recycling programs, found itself having to pay a materials processor to take its commodities for the first time in its history. Not long before, those same commodities, collected from more than 36,000 Berkeley households, had been netting the center around $80,000 each month. A percentage of that then went to the city.

Such high returns were as historic as the crash that finally flattened them. Ecology Center Executive Director Martin Bourque explained: "We're expecting prices to come back, but we don't know if they'll ever get back to $200 a ton in the near future. That was in some sense part of the whole bubble of consumerism and borrow-and-spend that was going on in the US." As consumer demand in the West grew, so did China's demand for recycled fiber for use in packaging consumer goods for export.

The collapse of American buying power was another part of the equation. "The transportation costs of all of our recyclables that go overseas to Asia are kept extraordinarily low because of the trade imbalance," Bourque explained. "The flow of goods of West to East from China to the West Coast, means that there has been this surplus of shipping going from the US to China, and that makes it very inexpensive to ship these materials that direction. If we had to pay the prices that they pay from China to the US, our recyclables wouldn't be going to China."

Louis Pellegrini, vice president of the private waste-collection company Alameda County Industries, agrees. "We've gotten dependent on China to accept our waste paper and commodities and recyclable commodities because they have so few natural resources over there and their economy was growing." And when the credit crisis hit, China halted nearly all purchases of such commodities — and in some cases even left ships full of recyclables bobbing in market limbo off its coasts. "The total waste stream probably in one week dropped to 20 percent of its value." In addition, a reduction in Chinese shipments to the West means fewer shipping containers arriving in the Port of Oakland, ratcheting up the price of operating in the export-dependent recyclables market at a time when credit was practically frozen.

Because of these factors, Pellegrini says ACI must raise rates by about 10 percent in Alameda and San Leandro, where the company provides residential and commercial solid waste and recycling collection. Unlike the Ecology Center, ACI — like most local waste-management companies — accepts all market risk and reaps all reward. "Any of the value we receive from those commodities we use to offset the cost we charge to our customers," Pellegrini offered. Because recycling value represents 10 percent of the revenue stream necessary to cover costs, the company says it must implement the rate increase on July 1.

"Labor costs are going to increase beyond the [Consumer Price Index]," Pellegrini argued. "We can no longer absorb those labor increases because the commodity value wasn't there." He noted that ACI never approached San Leandro or Alameda about a rate increase during the 2008 fuel crisis even though fuel prices doubled. "We were able to maintain that because we had commodity prices," he said.

Berkeley also is moving to hike rates for garbage services, including the recycling it contracts to the Ecology Center. In an April 21 report to the city council, the city manager proposed increasing residential and commercial rates by about 20 percent in order to generate $4 million, an average increase of $4.20 per residence per month. The city will hold a public hearing on the issue July 7; the rate hike is scheduled to take effect the next day. "Costs have increased since the last rate increase in July 2006," read the report, which offered a number of reasons for the change, including the collapse of commodity prices, recycling contract costs, and labor cost increases.

Bourque classifies the 2008 drop in commodities prices "pretty shocking to our system" but rejects arguments like that of ACI. "In most private sector arrangements, the hauler absorbs all the risk and all of the rewards," he said. "And for the last decade that's been all gravy, that's been all reward. ... If prices stayed low for an extended period of time it would genuinely be legitimate to say, 'We need to adjust our rates.'"

Slote of Oakland says neither of Oakland's contracted private-sector collection companies, Waste Management nor California Waste Solutions, has approached the city about raising rates. "There's no contractual basis for them to say, 'We're not making as much as we used to; We want to raise rates.'"

As for hopes that the market will rebound, Pellegrini says prices have recovered somewhat. "It's come back slowly, where we're probably at 50 percent of the value for that material that we were enjoying in October of last year. No one has a crystal ball for the long term outlook; it's all tied to the worldwide economy."

Brook Edwards, a recyclables market analyst and author of industry newsletter *The Brown Sheet*, agrees that predictions can be difficult. "Not in a million years would we have thought it would all go to hell like it did," he offered. But his research indicates that prices are indeed picking up. Cardboard exports are at $115 to $117 per ton in Northern California and residents of the East Bay are "sitting in the ideal spot because you have the port, and with China the main manufacturer in the world right now — and they do not have enough raw material — they're going to be knocking on your door every month regardless. ... They don't want to be shipping back empty containers."

California also mandates that its cities divert half of its waste from landfills, and individuals from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors say that market prices have not affected this important underlying issue.

"People's biggest concern was that they wouldn't be able to get rid of the recyclables at any price," said Tom Padia, recycling director for Alameda County's waste management and recycling agency, StopWaste.org. "And that has not materialized so far. People have been able to move the material into recycling markets. So the last thing we want is for people to get turned off to recycling because they think that it is ending up in the dump. ... It's important to the long run to keep the resource conservation ethic." ●

Guitar Center

DOUBLE FUN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SALES EVENT

THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

GUITAR CENTER PRESENTS TWO INCREDIBLE SALES EVENTS. ALL WEEKEND YOU'LL FIND AMAZING "DOORBUSTER" DEALS OF UP TO 85% OFF LIST AND SPECIAL FINANCING ON OVER 100 TOP BRANDS. THEN WRAP IT UP WITH OUR FAMOUS LIST SALE, LOADED WITH INCREDIBLE DEALS INCLUDING AN EXTRA 10% OFF CLEARANCE ITEMS.

FRIDAY 5/22 - SUNDAY 5/24
DOORBUSTERS PLUS,15% OFF*

MONDAY 5/25 • 9AM - 6PM
THE LIST
SAVINGS EVENT
SPECIAL ONE-DAY-ONLY PRICING

BRING THIS COUPON IN AND GET AN ADDITIONAL

15% OFF*

015902441010313160

COUPON IS REDEEMABLE ON A SINGLE ITEM PURCHASE ONLY. VALID BARCODE REQUIRED. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OFFERS.

Proof That We Plan on Staying Around for a While

(The East Bay Express has moved.)

Our new address is
620 3rd St.,
Oakland, 94607

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Claire's garage sales spill out onto the sidewalks several times a year

Cassie Harwood

THE SCAVENGING ISSUE

WHERE THE GARAGE SALE NEVER ENDS

"It's like playing store," one seller said, "except I don't have a toy cash register."

By Cassie Harwood

Garage sales are symbiotic. They facilitate the disposal of the seller's accumulated junk while allowing buyers to walk away with cheap finds. When the sun goes down the garage door usually follows and nothing remaining at the end of the day is kicked to the curb or boxed up until the junk pile swells again. But at one house in North Oakland, the garage doors never go down and the pile of stuff never really disappears. Except on weekends, when the seller joins the ranks of prowling shoppers, her garage is open for business nearly every weekday. It has been for almost twenty years.

In fact, Vickie aims to cultivate her clutter, not eradicate it. Like a fridge on Super Bowl Sunday, her headquarters is continually replenished with stuff: random antiques and vintage knick-knacks salvaged from estate sales, donated by friends, and culled from her own collection. "If it's good and usable and cute, I'll stick it in my garage," said Vickie, who agreed to discuss her not-quite-legal sales if just identified by her first name.

Vickie's fondness for garage sales is owed in part to a friend who's an antiquarian. Starting in the 1980s, the two garage salers spent weekend mornings scouting out sales. They also scored things from the city's curbside pickup program, which, until a few years ago, designated scheduled junk pickups within whole neighborhoods — a scavenger's heaven.

Ongoing sales like Vickie's tend to be rare. So when one persists for weeks or years, its longevity can be a point of contention in the neighborhood surrounding it.

Retail sales aren't permitted in highly residential zones because they attract unwanted traffic, said John Stewart, the principal inspection supervisor for the city's building services department. "Oakland doesn't have any hard, fast rules about garage sale-ing, but we look at it in terms of 'If it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's a duck,'" Stewart said. "If you're up and running five and six days a week, that is not a garage sale — that is commercial retailing."

But because the City of Oakland can't afford round-the-clock inspectors, most enforcement is done on a complaint-driven basis, explained Barbara Killey, an administrative hearing officer in the city manager's office. "If nobody complains, then the city probably doesn't ever know about it," Killey said.

Vickie does her best to keep things that way. "A lot of people don't even know I'm out here, which is good," she said, recalling an incident ten years ago when a neighbor reported her operation to the city. At that time, she was also selling antique furniture. After a visit from zoning inspectors who told her that the crowded setup was obstructing the sidewalk and violated the city's zoning code, she scaled down to the less conspicuous confines of her garages. The city never followed up.

Amelia Maffin, an East Bay native who moved nearby Vickie last August, regularly stops by the garages to buy things and converse. "I don't think she attracts many people from outside the neighborhood," Maffin said. "It's not like people know she's out there unless they already are in the neighborhood or naturally passing through." Another neighbor, Sabrina Snyder, said she has mixed feelings about the sales, although she has patronized them and wouldn't complain unless she saw it as a problem.

Vickie says she isn't trying to profit from her sales. If that were the case, she might consider advertising or asking more than a dollar or two per item. "It's like playing store," she said. "Except I don't have a toy cash register. Well, I have had them, but I sold them." Sometimes she has only one or two customers a day, but she says she likes it that way.

All businesses within the city — including small businesses, which may even be tax-exempt — are required to have a business tax certificate and report their annual earnings. "You're still supposed to report what you made even if you didn't make anything," Killey said.

Vickie doesn't have a license, but if she were to file for one or attempt to report her yearly earnings (however modest), it would raise a red flag that could prompt the zoning department to shut her garage doors for good. She worries about that prospect — as the sales are her foremost passion. "It's in the blood," she said.

In another part of Oakland, Claire holds sales from her two garages. But unlike Vickie, she sells mostly handmade jewelry and goods that she collects on trips to Indonesia. Because her chief venues are county fairs and markets, her garage sales are generally inconsistent, sometimes occurring only once a week or month and stopping for months at a time. But throughout the summer and between Thanksgiving and New Year's, the sales occur a few times a week.

Claire shares the sale space with a friend, David, whom she met in Indonesia and with whom she shares a shipping container to bring home goods. While she imports mainly clothing and jewelry, David brings back furniture and statues. His primary business is wholesale and consignment, and he sells at the garages for fun.

The two decided to try out garage sale-ing one winter eleven years ago, after feeling the effects of a slow Christmas season. "We set up a few little tables, and sure enough, people were stopping and honking at each other and loving our stuff and buying it," David said. "Then it kind of turned into a little neighborhood institution." The city has never interfered with the garage sales, he added. "We have had police and firemen stop by, and they buy gifts for their wives," he said.

On sale days, the garage doors are pulled open, exposing colorful fabrics and shapely statues and furniture, which fan out onto the surrounding sidewalk. A large canopy shades the area, and a hand-painted sign on the corner advertises the sale. For a time, the space in front of Claire's house takes on the air of an exotic bazaar.

Because the house sits on the corner of a busy street, some passing drivers, noticing the makeshift market, stop to check it out. It's not uncommon for a sale to yield a handful of browsers at a time.

One longtime neighbor, who asked not to be named, said the extra traffic can be a nuisance. But he said he doesn't begrudge the sales. "If it was a huge problem, I would have complained a long time ago," he said.

Claire's neighborhood is in a retail commercial zone, where retail sales can legally coexist with homes. Building services supervisor Stewart said that in such neighborhoods, homeowners can legally have retail sales within their homes, but their buildings still must meet height requirements, provide wheelchair access, and maintain an appropriate ratio of live and work space.

However, Claire's house doesn't meet those requirements. "I told myself I would do what it takes to be legal," she said, explaining that she had researched the requisites for house retail sales. "So I researched it and it takes about $100,000."

In other regards, Claire's sales are legitimate. Her business name is registered with the city, and she pays a retail sales tax to the state board of equalization. As of March she did not have an Oakland business tax certificate, but in April she reported that she had received one in the mail.

"Claire has a good gig if you ask me," said Jackie Barnes, who has lived in the neighborhood for nearly a decade. "I don't know if you have to have permits or anything like that, but she has taken a basic corner and turned it into something broader." ●

ARTS & CULTURE

CULTURE SPY

WHO KNOWS JOE?

Joe Orrach pulls no punches in his new one-man show

By Rachel Swan

Joe Orrach

At age 53, actor Joe Orrach seems about as combustible as he was in his early twenties. He's solidly built, with thick arm muscles and a well-defined jawline. He talks fast and intonates words with a sharp zing. Born in the Bronx and raised in a blue-collar Puerto Rican family, he says fighting is part of his genetic pedigree. His father and uncle both boxed. His brother grew up to be the heavyweight champion of New York. Orrach boxed, too, and became a welterweight titleholder in the Air Force before he was discharged in 1977. Then he opted to be a ballet dancer instead.

In fact, Orrach's entire life story is a series of banishments and meteoric successes. He's been a boxing champ, an Air Force burnout, a ballet dancer, a contender on *Star Search*, and a star of San Francisco's cabaret show Teatro ZinZanni. Now he's compiled it all into the new one-man show *In My Corner*, which plays at Oakland School of the Arts' Black Box Theater on Friday and Saturday. Orrach characterizes it as a fascinating spin on the old coming-of-age story. A guy from a boxing background finds his true calling in the arts, and tries to reconcile the macho and refined sides of his personality without turning into a sissy. Only someone with the grit and guts of Orrach could properly pull it off.

The story begins, Orrach said, in proper coming-of-age fashion, with a boy and his father. Orrach's father was a Boricua with a thick accent that the son has no trouble imitating. "Yonkers, Stadium" was "Johnky Stedyum." "Hello" had a silent "h" and a querying lilt ("Alo?"). That always caused a lot of confusion when his father answered the telephone, and people mistook him for the gardener. Orrach said the family didn't have any problems until they moved from the Bronx to Long Island, where racism was a lot more prevalent. "We were fine because we're white, until my father opened his mouth in the neighborhood."

In contrast to the rest of Long Island, Orrach's home was staunchly traditional and Latino. In his solo show, Orrach portrays this domestic world in a painterly way. He uses a Latin-jazz score composed by Oakland keyboardist Matthew Clark, who serves as the show's musical director. He uses a jump rope to represent the swash of his father's belt right before it hits a child's rear end. He tap-dances frenetically to show all the love and rage that came with those punishments, which gives it a kind of musical depth. ("I try to use it poetically and metaphorically, but you know the kids are getting their asses kicked," Orrach explained.) He even hits a speed bag in a rhythmic *shake-te-take-te-take-te*, as though to simultaneously create music and release pent-up aggression. "I try to tell the story in many different ways," Orrach said. "It's definitely a narrative, but there are liberties, and parallels that can be abstracted out."

Having inherited the intemperate personality of all the men in his family, Orrach was kicked off several high school sports teams for being a wise-guy. Undeterred, he took up saxophone, fell in love with it, and made plans to study jazz at SUNY Fredonia. That proved difficult since no one in his family knew anything about college. Orrach's mother was a homemaker; his father worked in a pearl factory. Neither of them put much stock in a fancy liberal-arts education. "I said 'to hell with it,'" said Orrach. "I joined the military on the spot. All of a sudden I'm on a plane going to Texas." Three years later, he was kicked out. "It took 36 months for them to decide I wasn't conforming to military life," Orrach said. "I could have told them that in a week, that's all I say."

At that point, Orrach's future seemed up in the air. "I don't know what to do with my life," he said. "I decide, you know what? I'm gonna take ballet classes. I'd taken some ballet classes to train for my footwork as a boxer. … I liked taking ballet classes because I liked hangin with the girls."

Event Details
In My Corner plays Fri.-Sat. (May 22-23) at Oakland School of the Arts' Black Box Theatre (531 19th St.), 7:30 p.m. $30. Proceeds benefit Oakland School of the Arts. JoeOrrach.com

So Orrach took a job with his brother's delivery service, and wore ballet shoes on the side. He recalls parking his truck by the New York Conservatory of Dance on 56th and Broadway, running up three flights of stairs to the ballet studio, and returning an hour and a half later to finish deliveries for his brother. The setup worked for a couple of years, and Orrach adapted to his increasingly precarious circumstances. He left the trucking job and managed to couch-surf with a gay dance instructor who became his surrogate parent. Then he decided on a lark to take up tap dancing.

Or, as he put it: "I fall in love with ballet, quit the truck, see Gregory Hines on a PBS special on TV, stupidly think, I can do that." Indeed he could. Orrach taught himself a few moves and started woodshedding at Fazil's, a famous dance studio in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan. Pretty soon he and a friend, Rod Ferrone, were tap-dancing on street corners in the city, earning up to $100 each for two hours of work. By then Orrach was married with children. He used the money to feed his family. He and Ferrone ultimately took their show on the road and garnered a large following, paving the way for Orrach's successful solo career. He moved to the Bay Area in 2000, took a role as Tino the parking attendant in Teatro ZinZanni, and just finished his undergrad at Saint Mary's College's LEAP program. He debuted *In My Corner* last fall at San Francisco's Intersection for the Arts.

In My Corner started as a bunch of diary entries that Orrach later rescuplted and set to music, with the help of his longtime girlfriend Lisbeth Hasse. Now it's a filter through which the ex-boxer understands his strange and enigmatic life. Strange would in fact be an understatement. Orrach is a beguiling character. He has that weird quality of being both a sponge and an individual. He'll absorb everything he can from any habitat he's in, even if he seems totally out of place. He's the kind of guy who can quit professional boxing, enroll in ballet classes, and make the dance form seem boorish and masculine without sacrificing any of its grace.

Orrach grew up with men who were conservators of old-school machismo. He emulated them, then took everything he learned from the street and parlayed it into the rarefied art world. "I was the champion of the Air Force, but when I turned to dance — oh boy, you don't do that," said the playwright. "They thought I was a little light in the loafers — maybe gay or something. They're very open minded." It took a while for Orrach to prove his heterosexuality and get his father and brothers to grudgingly accept his dance career. They still don't quite get it. ●

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

GREENIE AWARD WINNER
2009 OAKLAND INDIE AWARDS
THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING ENVIRONMENTALLY-CONSCIOUS ARCHITECTS, CONTRACTORS, VENDORS, STAFF & COMMUNITY
TO ONE CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION, ERIC ARONEA, THE EAST BAY EXPRESS, THE CRUCIBLE, THE CITY OF OAKLAND, &
OUR COMMITTED CUSTOMERS! CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OTHER NOMINEES, FINALISTS & WINNERS!
AWAKEN CAFÉ 414 14th Street at Broadway • in the new Downtown Oakland • www.awakencafe.com

HOLISTIC
VETERINARY
CARE

COMPLEMENTARY MEDICAL OPTIONS FOR YOUR PET, BOTH ANCIENT AND MODERN

We are here to provide your pet with greater quality of life by encouraging natural healing through acupuncture, herbal therapy, chiropractic, pulsed signal therapy and nutritional counseling

1969 Mountain Blvd, Oakland, CA 94611 / 510-339-2600 / www.HolisticVetCare.com

EAST BAY EXPRESS

localbizblogs

Give your biz a voice on the web

Every day people online share their favorite and not so favorite products, services, businesses and organizations.

Isn't it time you joined the conversation?

Express LocalBizBlogs provides essential tools needed to bring your business or organization to the social web and it's easy, fast and affordable. LocalBizBlogs can act as your primary website or complement the one you have!

Features include:

- Blogging
- Business Profile
- Visitor Statistic
- Videos
- Photos
- Services and Dining
- Menus
- Print/Email Coupons
- Search Optimization
- and more

www.EastBayExpress.com/LocalBizBlogs

7TH ANNUAL
BALLE CONFERENCE

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE
ENTREPRENEURS BUILDING LIVING ECONOMIES

MAY 21-23 2009
DENVER COLORADO

BALLE
Business Alliance for Local Living Economies

Communities across North America are meeting the challenges of climate change and the crisis on Wall Street by building local self reliance and a prosperous Main Street. Locally owned businesses and farms are cooperating to build local living economies, adopt sustainable practices, create green jobs, and generate new sustainable economic activity. Join local, national, and international leaders for this cutting-edge summit. By working together local businesses are rising to the challenge and creating a bright green future. Learn more and register at **LivingEconomies.org**

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Kids play at 2008's Scholastic Qualifier

A Smart Move for Berkeley Chess

School teaches critical thinking and helps bridge the gap.

Few board games have the international staying power of chess. Folks play it on the beach in Hawaii. Sailors in Bali play shuffle pawns on their boats while their tourist clientele go snorkeling. Chess Olympiads feature more countries than just about any other sport (soccer might be the one exception). But the greater United States hasn't quite caught on, said Berkeley Chess School founder Elizabeth Shaughnessy. Chess enjoyed brief popularity during the Bobby Fischer era, but was later supplanted by other pastimes. It's gotten a bit of hipster cachet in recent years, with the rise of Adisa Banjoko's Hip-Hop Chess Federation and advocacy from Wu-Tang rapper the Rza. Still, chess aficionados bemoan Americans' general lack of enthusiasm for the sport. "We're not partial to games that require heavy concentration," Shaughnessy explained.

Nonetheless, Shaughnessy persistently touts the values of chess, and has worked for decades to promote it in the Bay Area. Born into an Irish chess-playing family, she learned the game at age four and grew up practicing with her father and brother. She began to play competitively in college and ultimately joined the Irish Women's team, of which she's still a member. She launched **Berkeley Chess School** in 1982, twelve years after immigrating to Berkeley. Two of her children attended Oxford Elementary School at the time, and she volunteered to teach after-school chess lessons at the principal's behest. She came up with the idea on a lark, not anticipating the 72 students who would show up on the first day, or the parents who would buttonhole her in the coming months. Pretty soon Shaughnessy had to recruit people from local chess clubs to help teach. She began charging a small fee for those who could afford to pay, initially to compensate her own staff, and later to cover the cost of bringing the program into inner-city schools. She didn't receive any remuneration for the first nine years of Berkeley Chess School's existence.

Today, Berkeley Chess School serves about 5,000 kids throughout the Bay Area. It holds eight regional chess tournaments (two exclusively for girls), offers an international exchange program with an Irish school, and provides regular tutorials in more than 150 schools. It has produced one nineteen-year-old grand master and a couple of international masters, and helped many regular kids learn strategy, critical thinking, and how to be a good loser. (It isn't like Bridge, where you can shift blame to your partner, Shaughnessy said.) Moreover, it's improved students' test scores, said Shaughnessy, who, like most educators, is highly perturbed by the achievement gap in public schools. "We're always looking for ways to bridge the gap," Shaughnessy said. "I think this is a way."

Berkeley Chess School holds its **Oakland chess program tournament** this Thurs., May 21 at **Maxwell Park Elementary School** (4730 Fleming Ave., Oakland), with 200 third and fourth graders from East Oakland. 9-11 a.m., free. BerkeleyChessSchool.org

— Rachel Swan

ATTRACTIONS

Garden Days in the Ecological Garden Hands-on activities and demonstrations. Learn about air quality, gardening, composting, solar energy, and more. Second and Fourth Saturday of every month, 12-4 p.m. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland. 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

Oakland Artisan Marketplace Featuring handmade jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, paintings, photography, cloth, soaps, clothing, floral arrangements, greeting cards, and more. Info: 510-238-4922. Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Frank Ogawa Plaza, at 14th and Broadway sts., Oakland.

Redwood Valley Railway Twelve-minute whistle journey by steam train through the redwoods of Tilden Regional Park. Info: 510-548-6100. Saturdays, Sundays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., $2 per ticket, or 5 tickets for $8. Tilden Regional Park, entrance off Wildcat Canyon Rd. and Grizzly Peak Blvd., Berkeley. 510-525-2233.

Sunday Nature Adventures Learn about snakes, butterflies, marshes, or shellmounds, and their importance to the world we live in during this weekly program. This program is great for church and scout groups. Registration required. Sundays, 1 p.m., free. Coyote Hills Regional Park, 8000 Patterson Ranch Rd., Fremont. 510-795-9385. EBParks.org.

University of California Botanical Garden See plants you won't find anywhere else — more than 12,000 species, in fact. Free docent tours Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 1:30 p.m., open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission on Thursdays. Daily. UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley. 510-643-2755. BotanicalGarden.berkeley.edu

FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FUND-RAISERS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus locally [illegible]. For info, visit PCFMA.com. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Continues through Dec. 26, free. Webster St. at Taylor Ave., Alameda. 510-747-7400.

Carnaval Party and Show [illegible] Folk Performing Company presents a Carnaval celebration with Pan [illegible] Band, featuring special guests [illegible] Jeffers, Leslie Thurber, and Andy Nelson. Plus Caribbean food and DJ spinning soca, reggae, and salsa. Fri., May 22, 8 p.m., $15. Sweet Fingers Jamaican Restaurant, 464 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-533-8888. SweetFingersRestaurant.com

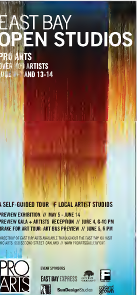
Carnaval San Francisco 2009 Celebrating Latin American and Caribbean cultures with a parade and street fair. Plus 4 [illegible] playground, [illegible] for kids, food, marimba, music, drumming, dancing, a crowning of the King and Queen, and work by local artists. Carnaval begins Sat. and hosts the whole festival, and parade begins May 24, 9:30 a.m. at Bryant & 24th Sts. in San Francisco's Mission District. For info, call the San Francisco Carnaval hotline at 415-920-0125 or visit CarnavalSF.com. Sat., May 23, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun., May 24, 9:30 a.m., free. $30 for grandstand seating at the parade. Harrison St., between 16th and 24th sts., San Francisco.

Citywide Garage Sale Sat., May 23, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., free. Albany, city of Albany. Albany.

Dinner and A Film: A Benefit for Rock Paper Scissors Collective Night of cocktails and a locally inspired dinner prepared by Chez Panisse chef Jerome Waag and [illegible] of the Secret Cafe. Plus an artist talk with Julie Plasencia and director Sergio de la Torre, and screening of de la Torre's film Maquilapolis. For info, visit RPSCollective.com. Fri., May 22, 6-11 p.m., $60-$100. Humanist Hall, 390 27th St., Oakland. 510-451-5818. HumanistHall.net.

Spring Antiques & Collectibles Street Faire With vintage, retro and antique street decorations, clothing, furniture, jewelry, art, pottery, books and collectibles from more than 400 dealers. For info, call 510-522-1500, or visit PleasantonAntiqueFaire.com. Sun., May 24, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Downtown Pleasanton, Main St., Pleasanton. 925-484-2199.

Whole Arts Fair With a gallery of youth


EAST BAY
OPEN STUDIOS
PRO ARTS
OVER 400 ARTISTS
JUNE 6-7 AND 13-14
A SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF LOCAL ARTIST STUDIOS
PREVIEW EXHIBITION // MAY 5 - JUNE 14
PREVIEW GALA + ARTISTS RECEPTION // JUNE 4, 6-10 PM
BRAKE FOR ART TOUR ART BUS PREVIEW // JUNE 5, 6 PM
DIRECTORY OF EAST BAY ARTS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE EAST BAY OR VISIT PRO ARTS 550 SECOND STREET OAKLAND // WWW.PROARTSGALLERY.ORG
PRO ARTS
EVENT SPONSORS
EAST BAY EXPRESS
CITY OF OAKLAND
SunDesignStudios
oakland grown

PICKS

Carnaval Party and Show

A fine parade deserves a tiny kick-off party — or, in the case of San Francisco's annual Carnaval celebration, a whole flurry of kick-off parties. This year's festivities begin in the East Bay with a special production by local Caribbean dance company **Sistas Wit-Style**. Held at **Sweet Fingers Jamaican Restaurant** (462 E. 14th St., San Leandro) on Friday, May 22 — the eve of San Francisco's blowout celebration — the event will feature delectable Caribbean food, live music by Pan Eternal Band with special guests Kwesi Jeffers, Lesha Thurston, and Andy Nelson, plus DJs spinning some reggae and salsa hits. 9 p.m., Sistas-Wit-Style.com — *Rachel Swan*

LA Sad Girl

Comedian and monologist Adelina Anthony is known for a rather seditious brand of political humor. A self-identified queer Xicana Indigena, she skewers everything from mainstream Hollywood to *The L Word* (bemoans her "dyke drama") and talks candidly about BDSM. On Saturday, May 23, at Berkeley's **La Peña Cultural Center** (3105 Shattuck Ave.), she'll unveil *LA Sad Girl*, her newest compendium of stand-up. Whereas last year's *La Angry Xicana?!* did a hatchet job on all things right wing and conservative, *LA Sad Girl* promises a more tightly focused look at sex and relationships from a lesbian perspective. She'll incorporate everything from break-up blues to the evils of social networking sites. 8 p.m. 524-8161. LaPena.org — *R.S.*

Oakland As Fireworks

The A's own record is only now [illegible], and there's no guarantee that the locals will continue so, either, when they return from the road. But fans looking for a good time could do worse than getting to the **Coliseum** (7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland) this weekend, as the **Athletics** host the Arizona Diamondbacks (Friday 7:05 p.m., Saturday 6:05 p.m., Sunday 1:05 p.m.). Saturday-May 23's post-game treat includes a [illegible] of fireworks for fans who want to get some bang for their bucks. After the D'Backs leave, Seattle settles starting Monday. [illegible] the Pacific Northwest after the desert Southwest? Kind of a wet blanket. 638-4900. OaklandAthletics.com — *Kelly Vance*

Youth Arts Fair

With the recent spate of Earth Day celebrations, Bike to Work Day clinics, and Pagan fest vals, Berkeley's **Civic Center Park** (Martin Luther King Jr. Way at Center St.) has been a veritable hotbed of activity. The fun continues with Saturday, May 23's **Youth Arts Fair**, which will feature art exhibitions, spoken word poetry, jazz bands, and dance performances by local kids, along with information booths from youth-oriented nonprofits and environmental agencies. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., free. For info: 510-981-5146. — *R.S.*

E&A

Artwork, entertainment provided by local singers, dancers, musicians and poets, and information booths about youth organizations. For info, call Rosa Wilson at 510-666-7082. Sat., May 23, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. free. Civic Center Park, Center St. at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley.

KIDS

Anime Club Anime discussion group for teens. Second and Fourth Tuesday of every month, 5-6:30 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., [illegible] 510-597-5017. OaklandLibrary.org.

Art Oakland for Children with Disabilities Ages 6-18 can learn to draw, work with clay, make simple prints, and enjoy an artistic environment in a group setting. Maximum five students per class. Call to reserve. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon. $5. NIAD Art Center, 551 23rd St. (Oakland Latino Arts Gallery), Richmond. 510-620-0290. NIADArt.org.

Butterfly Week Caterpillars, themed stories, and a [illegible] butterfly-inspired art project every day May 25-29. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. $7-$8. Habitot Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-647-1111. Habitot.org.

Children's Fairyland Weekend Activities Featuring arts and crafts, [illegible], children's theater shows, the Animal of the day, and more. Saturdays, 11 a.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. $8. Children's Fairyland, 699 Bellevue Ave. (at Lake Merritt), Oakland. 510-452-2259. Fairyland.org.

Know My World A creativity workshop for kids grades 2-12. Please preregister (ongoing; start anytime). Fridays, 4:15-6 p.m. $15/session or $50/four sessions. Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St., Alameda. 510-523-6957. FrankBetteCenter.org.

[illegible] Jared Singing, movement, and instruments for young children. Fridays, 10:30 a.m., free. Crosstown Community Center & Coffeehouse, 1303 High St., Alameda. 510-504-6807. CrosstownCoffee.org.

East Side Oakland Book Club Book club for teens and middle-school students. For the current book title, call Natasha at 510-615-5728. Third Wednesday of every month, 2-3 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Martin Luther King Jr. Branch, 6833 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-615-5728. OaklandLibrary.org.

Kerry's Kids Heavy Nutrition Guest presenters are Bob Sasse, Ginger Means, and Oakland Paramedics. Fourth Monday of every month, 5:30-7 p.m. Henry Robinson Multiservice Center, 559 16th St., Oakland. 510-430-3010. Please bring your child's yellow immunization card. 510-444-4326.

More Listings Online Find hundreds of up-to-date Arts listings at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

Karatekids — Self Defense for Girls Certified instructor Dawn Connelly leads these classes for girls ages 10-16, combining elements of karate, yoga, and living in a nonviolent, nonaggressive [illegible]. Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15 p.m. $15 drop-in rate; $139 for unlimited classes/month. 510-847-2400. AlbanyKarateforKids.com. Albany Karate for Kids, 1248 Solano Ave., Albany. 510-524-8283.

Lakeview [illegible] Club Facilitated by Bell Santos. Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Lakeview Branch, 550 El Embarcadero, Oakland. 510-238-7344. OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Theater Sing-Along [illegible] of the [illegible] Puppet Theater presents a fun and engaging puppet show. Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m., $4.95 for kids; $8 for each additional sibling; free for adults and infants. Sadie [illegible] Cafe, 4210 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-881-7278. [illegible].com.

New Homework Center Free drop-in homework help for students in grades 3-5. Thursdays, 3-5:30 p.m.; Mondays, 3-5:30 p.m. free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-526-3720. ACLibrary.org.

Nutrition Workshop Nutrition workshop from The Alameda County Community Food Bank for Grades 6-8. Tue., May 26, 3 p.m. free. Oakland Public Library, Eastmont Branch, Eastmont Town Center, Suite 211, 7200 Bancroft Ave. E, Oakland. 510-615-5726. OaklandLibrary.org.

Oakland Public Chess Tournament More than 200 kids compete at Berkeley Chess School's Oakland Chess Program tournament. City Councilwoman Jean Quan will deliver opening remarks. For info, visit BerkeleyChessSchool.org. Thu., May 21, 9-11 a.m. free. Maxwell Park Elementary, 4730 Fleming Ave., Oakland.

[illegible] Dance for Kids Beginning classes in Indian classical dance. Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. [illegible] Kala Mandir College of Indian Classical Arts, 1304 Delaware St., Berkeley. 510-273-2442. [illegible].org.

Parent's Night Out Drop your kids off for play and games. To reserve a space call Lydia at 510-647-1111 ext. 14. Fri., May 29, 5:30-9:30 p.m. $30 per child, $5 additional per sibling. Habitot Children's Museum, 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. 510-647-1111. Habitot.org.

Teen Advisory Group Meeting Call 510-238-3400 for details. Third Thursday of every month, 5:15 p.m. free. Oakland Public Library, Asian Branch, 388 9th St., Suite 190 (Pacific Renaissance Plaza), Oakland. 510-238-3400. OaklandLibrary.org.

Teen Anime Club For young fans of Japanese entertainment. Tuesdays, 3:30-5 p.m. free. Oakland Public Library, Martin Luther King Jr. Branch, 6833 International Blvd., Oakland. 510-615-5728. OaklandLibrary.org.

Tiki Tuesdays Explore the [illegible] of [illegible], magnets, and light with [illegible], a sing-along, story time, exhibit exploration, and an age-appropriate [illegible] show. To register call 510-306-7381 or [illegible]

TIME IS MONEY

"don't waste it"

CALL FRED MADRIAGA, C.P.A.

Your Personal C.F.O. • Tax Services

IRS Audit Representation • Divorce Income Tax & Business Evaluation • Construction & Real Estate

MADRIAGA & ASSOCIATES • 5749 DOYLE STREET • EMERYVILLE, CA 94608

TEL: (510) 985 - 1445 • WWW.TEAMTAXPROS.COM • INFO@TEAMTAXPROS.COM

Goods & Services

CALL TO ADVERTISE 510-879-3801

A New Computer Now!!!!
Brand Name laptops & desktops, Bad or NO Credit. No Problem. Smallest weekly payments avail. It's yours Now. Call
800 964 7754 (AAN CAN)

Christy Bertani Bookkeeping
20 years computerized accounting experience for small businesses throughout the East Bay
510 849 2545

Owe 10K or More to the IRS?
Need Tax Relief? Call Effectiv Now for a Free Consultation. We can help!
800 988 0518 (AAN CAN)

Debt and Foreclosure Relief
If you are constantly harassed by collection agencies or credit card companies. If your home is under foreclosure. If you are facing financial difficulties and constantly under stress. We are experienced attorneys with a proven record of helping people relieve their debt and stopping foreclosure. We carefully review your financial situation and discuss ALL your options. We give personal attention to each and every client. Please call (510) 500 4474 to get your FREE CONSULTATION with our attorneys. (We are debt relief agency. We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the Bankruptcy Code)

Deborah's Home Repairs
Carpentry electrical plumbing, tile and construction. Specialty: Creative Carpentry
18 Years Experience
510 520 2007

F.J. Home Repair
Plumbing, Electrical, Painting, Drywall, Flooring, Carpentry and More. 100% Guarantee.
Call Frank 510 705 3371

Gordo's Hauling
Yard, Basement, Garage, Cleanup, Paint and Gardening. Honest. Experienced and Great References
510 860 2185 or
myhelperallinone.com

Hauling U-Call We Haul
Professional, prompt, reliable. Get rid of your old junk. Business and residential. Environmentally friendly. Free estimates.
510-672 7380

House Cleaning Speak French
Professional House Cleaning Services. Experienced. Honest. Reliable and Speaks French. $15.00 HR Please Call
Wondergirll at 510-839 0173

Lams Gardening Service
and All Types of Hauling & Clean-up.
Landscaping: New Yard, Rock, Bark, Soil, Rototilling, New Lawn, Sod, Sprinkler and Drip Systems. Tree Service: Trimming and Topping. Monthly Care Free Estimates
510-508-6878

Maria's House Cleaning
We Clean Houses & Offices. Reasonable Rates. Reliable & Dependable. Good References
510 436 0124 510 325-8601

Miria's House Cleaning
My Helpers All In One makes residences, businesses, and post tenant buildings squeaky clean. Friendly, professional staff seven days a week.
Call Today! 510 860 7160.
www.myhelperallinone.com.

Protect Your Family
Get a free ADT alarm system with no installation fee and no equipment cost. Most homeowners will receive an insurance discount as well. Mention this ad and get 2 free keychain remotes. Promotional code: A02087
Call 888-951 5158 (AAN CAN)

Seun's Yard Services
All yard work, fence, hauling, tree cutting, retaining walls, new lawns, sprinkler
Call Seun: 510-610-4168 or 510 223-5174.

Water Saver Special
Zero Tank Water tech installed.
Old tank hauled, $400.00/installation.
Naomi Friedman Plumbing
510-525 1031 Lic. # 369186

You got a problem?
Forgetaboutit!

Fazule & Sons Plumbing
Residential & Commercial. Check out our great customer reviews on Yelp.com! Lic #738031
Call Tony 510-534-5480
Your brown is my green!

Pregnant? Considering Adoption?
Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid. Call 24/7
Abby's One True Gift Adoptions
866-413 6293 (AAN CAN)

Sullivan Properties
West Maui's Affordable Condos
1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Rentals
Call: 1 866-332 1238
Visit: www.MauiResorts.com

Custom Blend your own Tea
Start by picking Green, Black, White, Rooibos, Honeybush or Yerba Mate. Then add fruits, flavors, herbs, flowers and other fun stuff. Wholesale accounts available.
www.customleaf.com

West Maui Vacation Rentals

Quam Properties
A family owned and operated company with over 25 years experience in Hawaii. Contact us today for all your West Maui vacation rental and property management needs
1 866-665-1315 www.quamproperties.com

Is Junk Taking Over Your Life?
Need Help Getting Organized? I Can Help! Garages, Kitchens, Basements, Bedrooms, Closets, etc.
510-860 7160

Cottage Inn At Lake Tahoe
Your place in the sun on the West Shore! Charming theme rooms include full breakfast.
1 800-581-4073 www.thecottageinn.com

GORDOS HAULING
GREAT REFERENCES
510-860 2185

Boyd's Body & Auto Repair
Complete Automotive Service Center
Serving the East Bay for over 26 years
TOWING SERVICES AVAILABLE
510 654 0425

JP Painting Company
Interior & Exterior
20% OFF
Juan Vento
510-478-5119
Faux Finish

FREE COUNSELING
drop in mon-thu 6:45-9pm
2339 durant berkeley ca
510.548.2570 ext. 2250

DATA RECOVERY
FREE Pickup & Delivery in SF Bay Area
Class 100 Cleanroom / 24 hr / 7 days Service
408.519.5777 | 408.431.7451

MIRIA'S HOUSE CLEANING
RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL
GOOD REFERENCES!
510 860 7160

IMANI
Auto Brokers
We Find the Car You Want at a Wholesale Price!
510-932-3060

We Take the Guesswork Out of Dating
WE OFFER VIDEOS, COMPATIBILITY TESTING
PHOTO & IDENTITY VERIFICATION
PERSONAL SERVICE
PLUS A 50% AVERAGE
SUCCESS RATE FROM
YOUR CHOICES OF
REAL SINGLES
www.videointroductions.com 925.676.2399

Albany
FORD-SUBARU
Award Winning Service and Parts
For appointments call 510-528-1244.

REHEARSE AMERICA
OAKLAND
MONTHLY BAND
REHEARSAL
STUDIOS

DEBORAH'S HOME REPAIRS
Carpentry electrical plumbing, tile and construction
Specialty: Creative Carpentry • 18 Years Experience
510-520-2007

You got a problem?
Forgetaboutit!
Fazule & Sons Plumbing
Residential & Commercial
Check out our great customer reviews on Yelp.com!
Lic #738031
Call Tony 510-534-5480
Your Brown is my green!

Torchio's Auto Repair
20% Off Labor
2344 Webster Street
Oakland, CA 94612
www.TorchiosMechanic.com

Lams Gardening Service
AND ALL TYPES OF HAULING & CLEAN-UP
510-508-6878

Christy Bertani
Bookkeeping
20 years computerized accounting experience for small businesses throughout the East Bay.
510.849.2545

POWERAGE AMP & ELECTRONIC
SERVICE • REPAIR • MODS

E&A

salmonaid.org Choose from three different one-hour sessions. Tue., May 26; Tue., June 2. $00-$15 for 3 sessions. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7373. ChabotSpace.org.

Wildlife Theater On Saturdays, hear a story and meet an animal. On Sundays, meet more animals and learn cool nature facts. Saturdays, 11:45 a.m.; Sundays, 1:45 p.m., free with zoo admission. Oakland Zoo, 9777 Golf Links Rd., Oakland, 510-632-9525. OaklandZoo.org.

LGBT

Dress-Up Wednesdays A social gathering where transgender girls, cross-dressers, and trans-lovers are welcome. Enjoy snacks and a large elements of clothing for the woman in you. Dress up, make friends, take photos, and get fashion tips. Wednesdays, 6-10 p.m. $15 donation requested. JoinPhilosGirl.com. I Love It, 41878 Warm Springs Blvd. #7, Fremont, 510-656-4748. ILoveItGirl.com.

East Bay Front Runners Join the LGBT group for noncompetitive runs and walks, followed by brunch at a local restaurant. Visit the Web site for weekly locations. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m., free. EastBayFrontRunners.org. Berkeley Marina, 201 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-943-8390.

LGBT Hip-Hop Night Join DJ G-Pyt with Skyblu for his weekly event. Everyone welcome. Thursdays, 9:30-11:55 p.m., free. RainbowRoom.com. Rainbow Room, 21859 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 510-582-8078. RainbowRoom.com.

LGBT Weight Watchers Meeting E-mail joanna.abrian@weightwatchers.com for more info. Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. $0-$22-$12. Fireside Rakers Hall, 1970 Chestnut St. (upstairs), Berkeley.

Transgender Legal Clinic AIDS Project East Bay and the Transgender Law Center sponsor a monthly legal clinic, wherein you can visit one-on-one with an attorney for thirty minutes to discuss transgender legal issues. First Thursday of every month, 6-9 p.m. Transgender Law Center, 1800 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 415-865-0176. TransgenderLawCenter.org.

Wicked Gorgeous Drag Show Helluva Ryborn, Cassandra Cass, Pussy Hips, and Rhy Ren. Fridays, 9 p.m. Continues through Sept. 4. $5. Whiskey Lounge Inc., 1608 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-830-3873. WhiskeyAndBar.com.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Block Rober: Quiz Trivia game for cash and prizes. Tuesdays, 9 p.m., free. Beckett's, 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-647-1790. BeckettsIrishPub.com.

Kissing Dance the Stars admission, from Oakland's Linden Street Dance Studio present Street Smooth to a different style each week, ranging from rumba to salsa to waltz. For info, call 510-845-8897 ex. 205. Fridays, 8:30-9:15 p.m. Continues through July 3, free. Jack London Square, 70 Washington St. (foot of Broadway), Oakland, 510-327-8070. JackLondonSquare.com.

El Grupito Spanish conversation group. Every other Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., free. Dream Fluent, 5433 College Ave., Oakland, 510-853-9965. DreamFluent.com.

Know-mad Trivia Night hosted by Justin & Terry. Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. Café, 2540 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-595-6344.

The Living Philosophers Group A liberating discussion group. Fridays, 1-4 p.m. North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley, 510-981-5190.

Oakland Weiners Gospel Street Unknowns Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., free. Imani Community Church, 3700 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-530-5481.

Pub Trivia with prizes and a cash jackpot. Wednesdays, 9 p.m., free. Pasand Lounge, 2286 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. PasandLounge.com.

What Do Men and Women Want? Drop In Dating Discussion Group Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Continues through June 3. $10. Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley, 510-526-3805.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

Livermore's Biggest Loser Group fitness training, nutrition guidance, and weekly progress tracking. For more information or to Register, visit LARPD.dst.ca.us or call 925-373-5700. Through July 4. $130-$150. Robert Livermore Community Center, 4444 East Ave., Livermore, 925-373-5700.

Midnight Soccer Games Second and Fourth Saturday of every month, 11:45 p.m., free. OaklandFish.com. Astro Park, MacArthur Blvd. (at Lakeshore Ave.), Oakland.

Nature Walks for Families Workshop Tips on outdoor excursions for families. Thu., May 21, 7 p.m., free. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-527-4140. REI.com.

Pro Friends Who Team Weekly Bike Ride Leisurely 15-25 mile ride up Tunnel Road and through the Berkeley hills. Wednesdays, 6 p.m., free. Jhamod Cafe, 6600 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-588-5044.

Run-N-Bowl Mondays, 10 a.m., $1.50 per game. Albany Bowl, 540 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-8818. AlbanyBowl.biz.

San Francisco Frontrunners A 3.5-mile run starting at Stow Lake together with the rest of the LGBT community and friends. Saturdays, 9 a.m. Free. SFFrontrunners.org. Golden Gate Park, SF Stow Lake Drive, San Francisco.

Shaolin Lower Kungfu and Qi Gong Shaolin Outreach learn the elements of Shaolin quan or boxing forms that involve the hands, eyes, body and feet. Through Feb. 1, 2010. Shaolin Luo Han Temple, 2119 Berkeley Way, Berkeley.

Zin to Sin
Casino Night

on Memorial Day Weekend

Casino Night, Wine, & Cajun Dinner

Sunday, May 24 • 7–11 pm

1410 62nd Street, Suites B & D
Emeryville
at Paulding & Company and Periscope Cellars
w/ Urbano Cellars and Eden Canyon Vineyards

Chips to gamble, zinfandel wine, prizes to win and a Cajun jambalaya dinner for you and your lucky partner
***$49** (admission for two)*

East Bay Express 2 for 1 Special

Purchase tickets by 5/23 at:
www.edencanyon.com/buy
805 238 1241

Help your chances by dressing in your best New Orleans style.

The Express has moved
to 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607

2009 SALMONAID
JACK LONDON SQUARE, OAKLAND
JUNE 20&21 - 12PM-8PM

RESTORE RIVERS, RECOVER SALMON, REBUILD JOBS!
A FUN, FREE, FAMILY FRIENDLY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, FOOD, AND CULTURE

LIVE MUSIC BY:
ALBINO
MITCH WOODS
ZYDECO FLAMES
AND MANY OTHER FANTASTIC BANDS

WILD PACIFIC SALMON HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR CULTURE, CUISINE, ECONOMY, AND ECOLOGY. BUT TODAY THESE FISH ARE IN JEOPARDY. COME CELEBRATE WILD SALMON AND LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP RESTORE THEM AND THE RIVERS THAT SUPPORT US ALL.

MOUTH WATERING, SUSTAINABLE SEAFOODS AND BEVERAGES DONATED AND PREPARED BY:
Fish. Sausalito CA
Newport OR
HONEST
The Basin Saratoga
Waterbar San Francisco

WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:
THE BAY INSTITUTE, CENTRAL CALIFORNIA JOINT COUNCIL/FISHERMEN'S LEAGUE COMMITTEE, KLAMATH RIVERKEEPER
PACIFIC COAST FEDERATION OF FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS, ALASKA SEAFOOD MARKETING INSTITUTE, COAST..., OREGON WILD
FISH ON CUT BAIT, INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESOURCES, JACK LONDON SQUARE
MORRO BAY COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN'S ORGANIZATION, PORT OF OAKLAND, SAVE OUR WILD SALMON
SMALL BOAT COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHERMEN'S ASSOC., TUOLUMNE RIVER TRUST
AND DOZENS OF OTHER FISHING ORGANIZATIONS, CONSERVATION GROUPS, AND FIRST NATIONS

FOR A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND OTHER DETAILS VISIT SALMONAID.ORG

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

Randy Hussong's "Holy Mother of God That's a Lot of Baseballs."

Sim World

Re:con-figure ushers in new gallery space for Kala Institute

Kala Art Institute's Heinz Avenue studio in Berkeley has been known for thirty years to Bay Area printmakers. And with the opening of a new 2,000-square-foot gallery around the corner, Kala now has a large, airy display space that will undoubtedly anchor the emerging (and as yet unnamed) arts district along San Pablo Avenue.

In the inaugural show *re:con-figure*, eleven artists explore the contemporary mediasphere of "continuously streaming images and information" through works in print, digital collage, photography, video, and sculpture. **Adriane Colburn** interprets her Arctic expedition experience with "For the Deep," a large abstract wall collage of mapping and seismographic motifs equipped with tape-recorded ocean sounds emitted from spyglass-shaped speakers. **Midori Harima** makes ghostly life-sized sculptures of a coyote, a cobra, and herself as a young girl, their paper skins made from collaged photocopies. **Randy Hussong**'s "Holy Mother of God That's a Lot of Baseballs" takes a satirical look at sport and religion: a Madonna stands in a batter's cage amid a heap of cubic baseballs. **Packard Jennings** takes on cultural politics with his anachronistic video montage "Afghanistan, 1985," mixing snippets of American movies (*Rambo*, *The Searchers*) with an Afghan film on the Russian invasion. Taliban "freedom fighters" and Russian baddies trade taunts with Wayne and Reagan, the heroes of "Fort Culver" sound stages in WWII. **Jeff Kao**, **Srdjan Loncar**, and **Bayeté Ross Smith** also comment on current events. Kao's "Crush on Nature" suspends a cardboard model of a half-tracked troop carrier above a sleeping homeless person, while Loncar's "Value" presents our cultural ideal, gold-plated pistol cases full of loot (actually wooden bricks covered with inkjet print greenbacks). Smith creates photographic portrait targets (e.g., "Jane Doe 1: Unidentified Black Female") and films his subjects as they blast away at their target selves with paintball guns. **Scott Kildall/Victoria Scott** and **Leslie Snows** explore the construction of images. Kildall/Scott use computers to design paper sculptures of various proverbial objects ("Can of Worms," "Pot of Gold," "Red Herring"), which they juxtapose with printouts of the cutout shapes used to construct them. Snows employs scanned and manipulated digital imagery in her imaginary landscape collages. Finally, **Gary Nakamoto** takes time-lapse photographs of surgical procedures, with clouds of medical actors hovering over frozen patients, as in "C Section, Twins: 39 Minutes." *Re:con-figure* runs through July 27 at **Kala Gallery** (2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley). Kala.org or 510-841-7000.

— DeWitt Cheng

ART GALLERIES

ABC [illegible] Warehouse Space: Challenge of Champions Community art at [illegible] on Oakland [illegible]. Through Dec. [illegible] 3850 Hubert St., Emeryville. [illegible]

Oakland Street Windows Gallery: Portraits from Near and Far [illegible] portrait paintings by Lisa [illegible] and Susan Matthews. Through May 30. [illegible] Berkeley. 510-981-[illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: You, and, and Everyone We Know Nineteen artists present figure paintings, sculpture, [illegible], photography, apparel, [illegible], acrylic, jewelry, etchings, illustrations, and assemblage. Through June 5. 2546 [illegible] Wy. (Berkeley). Berkeley. [illegible]

[illegible]: Fabric (Objectified) [illegible] presents a series of drawings of old [illegible] of clothing on a hanger, to raise questions [illegible] "whitewashed" fabric [illegible]. Through June 3. 414 14th St., Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery: Working in Wax Juried exhibition curated by [illegible] Goldberg. Through June 21. **[illegible]** National juried exhibition with [illegible]. Through June [illegible] Civic Dr. ([illegible] Regional Center for the Arts), Walnut Creek. 925-295-1417. [illegible]Gallery.org.

Berkeley Art [illegible]: [illegible] Installation by Cheryl [illegible] and Thalia [illegible] Video installation about movement. Through June 7. 1275 Walnut St. (in [illegible]), Berkeley. 510-644-[illegible]. BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Art Museum: [illegible]: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet Exhibition explores relationships between human communities and the natural world, featuring work by [illegible]. Through Sept. 27. 2625 Durant Ave. (UC Berkeley campus), Berkeley. 510-642-0808. BAMPFA.berkeley.edu.

[illegible] East Bay University Art Gallery: [illegible] Faculty Exhibition [illegible] Pre-Columbian Sculpture Through June [illegible]. 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd. (CSUEB campus), Hayward. 510-885-3299. [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Paintings and intaglio prints by Emily Payne and [illegible]. Through May 31. 1800 [illegible] Fourth St., Berkeley. [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: Soft Sculpture Featuring work by [illegible]. Through July 6. 5429 College Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

[illegible] Studio & Gallery: The [illegible] Project Oakland artist [illegible] who [illegible] instruments [illegible] sand and other [illegible] materials. Through May 31. 490 [illegible], Oakland. 510-[illegible]

[illegible] Gallery: The All-[illegible] Show Sculpture, paintings, mixed media and photography by more than 30 female artists. Through June 20. **[illegible]: The Art Works of Kathe [illegible]** Featuring insects, [illegible] and recycled materials into her specimen creations. [illegible]. Through June 20. 10042 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-[illegible]. [illegible]Gallery.com.

Expressions Gallery: Spring [illegible] Group art show. Through June 5. 2035 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4930. ExpressionsGallery.org.

[illegible]: [illegible] With paintings by [illegible], [illegible] glass sculpture and jewelry by [illegible]. Through June 20. [illegible] Oakland. 510-[illegible]

Gallery [illegible]: [illegible] Crystal Light Solo show featuring multimedia [illegible] and installation by [illegible]. Through May 31. 2742 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]

[illegible] Mountain: [illegible] Birthday Party Group art show and sale with a wine tasting and [illegible]. Sat., May 23, 2-6 p.m. Free. 3314 4th St., Berkeley.

[illegible]: Photography of A [illegible] World [illegible] presents [illegible] pigment ink prints. Closing reception May 31, [illegible] p.m. Through May 31. 2138 Cedar St., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]

[illegible]: [illegible] [illegible] with Oakland sculpture, photography, and collage. Through June 21. 1918 University Ave., 2nd Fl., Berkeley. 510-[illegible]

[illegible] Conference Room, [illegible]: [illegible] the Art of [illegible] Artist and calligrapher [illegible] adapts a traditional Mongolian aesthetic. Through July 15. 2223 Fulton St., [illegible] Floor, Berkeley. 510-643-[illegible]. [illegible].berkeley.edu.

Johansson Projects: Jennifer and [illegible] McCoy Presenting [illegible] work that examines and [illegible] of [illegible]. Through June 20. **The [illegible]** [illegible] and Michael [illegible] present surreal sculptures and [illegible]. Through June 20. 2300 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-444-9140. JohanssonProjects.com.

Kala Art Institute: re:con-figure Group show with new works in print media, paper sculpture, digital collage, photography, and video. Through June 27. 2990 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-549-2977. Kala.org.

[illegible]: [illegible] Light Featuring photography by Gary [illegible]. Through May 31. 5758 Horton St., Emeryville. 510-[illegible]

[illegible]: [illegible] Group show featuring architecture in a variety of media, and confronting various aspects of our built environment. Curated by [illegible] and [illegible] Campbell and featuring work by [illegible]. [illegible]

[illegible] Street Show, [illegible]. Through June 2. 1800 Campbell St., Oakland. 510-[illegible]

Lucky [illegible] Art Gallery: "[illegible] a' [illegible]: The Street Art of [illegible]" With [illegible] instruments made from junk and other recycled found objects. Through June 2. [illegible] Santa Clara St., Alameda. 510-[illegible]

[illegible]: [illegible] [illegible] Through May 24. 1235 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-526-[illegible]

Mercury 20 Gallery: Speed and Ecstasy Paintings and pastels of Oakland by Jamie Morgan. Through May 30. **Oakland Windows** Paintings and drawings by Jill McLennan. Through May 30. 25 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. MercuryTwenty.com.

Mills College Art Museum: Young Americans: MFA [illegible] Curated by [illegible], features work by Andrew [illegible], Brian Conway, [illegible], Joseph [illegible], Leigh Merrill, [illegible], and [illegible]. Through May 31. **Young [illegible]: Mills College MFA Exhibition** [illegible] and drawings, and sweaters, large-scale photographs, sculptures, portraits, [illegible], drawings, and installations by 15 artists. Through May 31. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-430-2164.

PhotoCentral Gallery and Darkroom: [illegible] Through June [illegible]. 1099 E St., Hayward. 510-[illegible]. PhotoCentral.org.

[illegible] Gallery: [illegible] Color photographs by [illegible], [illegible], and Ted [illegible]. Through June 20. 2235 Fifth St., Berkeley. 510-644-1400. [illegible]

San Pablo Arts Gallery: [illegible] Prints by [illegible] and [illegible], plus ceramics by [illegible]. Through June 14. One [illegible] Sq., 13831 San Pablo Ave. (San Pablo Civic Center), San Pablo. 510-[illegible]. CI.San-Pablo.ca.us.

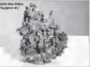
[illegible] + Gallery: [illegible] Solo exhibition by Joseph [illegible] features graphite on paper plus sculpture-based installation and video based on the contemporary landscape. Through June 21. **[illegible]** [illegible] Hodge and [illegible] Hodge present video installations that combine [illegible] materials with new technology. Through June 21. 580 2nd St. [illegible], Oakland. 510-[illegible]

The [illegible]: [illegible] Featuring Oakland paintings and sewing [illegible] by [illegible], founder and [illegible] of Oakland's [illegible]. Through May 31. [illegible] San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-[illegible]. The[illegible]Gallery.com.

Townsend Center: A Breath of Air Mixed-media exhibit by Iranian-American artist Ala Ebtekar. Through May 25. 220 Stephens Hall, UC Berkeley, Oakland. 510-643-9670. TownsendCenter.berkeley.edu.

More Listings Online
Get info about dozens more SF art events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

PICKS



David Allan Peters "Sculpture #1."

A Breath of Air

The Iranian-American artist **Ala Ebtekar** is exhibiting a large mixed-media diptych on the Berkeley campus — completing a once-annual hat trick with the previous Botero and Chagoya shows. It's timely again, too, with the egregious Messrs. Yoo & Ahmadinejad back in the news. Ebtekar, an alumnus of Tim Rollins' Kids of Survival, follows K.O.S. practice by painting images over collaged text. Here, various American missiles and bombs, swathed in blue clouds, all rendered in a faux calligraphic style, hover above blocks of Farsi and Arabic script from an eighty-year-old prayer book. The text reads as city blocks seen from above, of course. Chesterton said the lights of Broadway were a wonderland if you couldn't read. Were we ignorant of modern weaponry, this work would be elegantly beautiful. It's loaded, however, in the sentiment. *A Breath of Air* runs through May 25 at **Townsend Center** (UC Berkeley, Stephens Hall, 220). TownsendCenterBerkeley.edu or 510-643-9670. *— DeWitt Cheng*

Intimate Observer/ Speed and Ecstasy

Two Oaklanders explore the urban landscape. **Jill McLennan**'s paintings and drawings, collectively entitled *Intimate Observer*, depict her Jingletown neighborhood as tapestries of color and texture ("Fourth St., Dusk," "Ford St., Afternoon"). The panoramic vistas invite visual strolling, while the tilting perspectives and bright pastel colors evoke a folk-art expressiveness, with everything touched by grace: Rousseau's Paris may come to mind, but with American energy and drive, symbolized by 880's "[illegible]" overpasses ("Cotton Mill, Twilight"). **Jamie Morgan**'s paintings and pastels, entitled *Speed and Ecstasy*, explore the silent mystery and beauty of unpeopled roads, bridges, and parking structures ("Park Street Bridge," "Distant House," "Empty Lot"). The works' compositional rigor and poetic feeling for light may remind viewers of Hopper and Sheeler. "On Ramp, Off Ramp" depicts parallel dark and illuminated roadways streaked by taillights that diverge under a full moon framed by black trees. Shows run through May 30 at **Mercury 20 Gallery** (25 Grand Ave., Oakland). MercuryTwenty.com or 510-701-4620. *— DC*

Surface Tension

Surface tension is the molecular bond that makes a water meniscus "sticky" and impenetrable. **Chandra Cerrito Gallery** is showing four artists who play with 2D surface abstraction and 3D spatial illusionism. The black webs in **Jose Garrido**'s paintings have an improvised look, but the rectilinear sculptural shapes they construct are spatially ambiguous, like Albers' geometric optical illusions. **Christopher Martin** pours paint onto Plexiglas; the organic textures seen from the reverse side suggest botany and geology. **Dominic Nieberggall**'s abstract acrylic paintings with their flattened biomorphic shapes and juicy colors marry Pop, cartooning, and Art Nouveau sensibilities. **David Allan Peters** explores layered acrylic paint: he excavates into his paintings on panel, exposing the sedimentation, or he sections his topographies and piles the booklike forms (reminiscent of marbled endpapers) into small sculptures of mountains. *Surface Tension* runs through May 30 at **Chandra Cerrito Gallery** (25 Grand Ave., Oakland). ChandraCerrito.com/art or 415-577-7537. *— DC*

Sunday, May 24th at 8.00 p.m

In Search of My Clitoris

Proceeds go to fund the educational activities of Global Women Intact in West Africa.
Tickets $15/ $20
La Peña Cultural Center,
3105 Shattuck Ave Berkeley, CA 94705
510/849 2568 www.LaPena.org

EXPRESSION PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
A DOUBLE BILL
TWO SHOWS, ONE HELLUVA NIGHT!

NO EXIT
BY JEAN PAUL SARTRE
TAPE

PREVIEWS: MAY 29TH & 29TH
OPENS: MAY 30TH, 2009
BOYCE GALLERY 2001 MARIPOSA SF
WWW.HELLUVANIGHTSF.COM

The East Bay Express has moved

to 620 3rd St., Oakland 94607

SR2 GALLERY PRESENTS FUTURISTICAL
SOLO SHOW BY

OPENING RECEPTION
May 30th, 2009
From 6pm-10pm
SHOW RUNS UNTIL JULY 30TH
Sponsored By
EAST BAY EXPRESS
Sacred Rose Gallery • SacredRoseTattoo.com • 1720 University Ave., Berkeley, CA

EAST BAY EXPRESS

2ND ANNUAL
SCIENCE & ART APPRECIATION NIGHT
Friday April 24, 2009 (7pm – 11pm)
Check our website for details
• Music by Wpan Array •
• Final Showings of Dancefest 2009 •
• Beer provided by Buffalo Bill's Brewery •
$1.00 OFF admission with this ad
chabot space & science center
EXPAND YOUR UNIVERSE
ChabotSpace.org • (510) 336-7373

THEATER & DANCE

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

Barry Beach vs. John K. Gerber Two-person sculpture and performance. Fri., May 22, 7:30 p.m. free. Temescal Arts Center, 511 48th St. (at Telegraph Ave.), Oakland. 510-923-1074. TemescalArtsCenter.org.

Sinners Mindy Cooper directs this Center REPertory Company Showcase of the Broadway musical. Starting May 21, Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesdays-Wednesdays, Sundays, 1:30 p.m. Continues through June 27. $27-$40. Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-943-7469. DLRCA.org.

Faust Part One Kevin Clarke and Mark Stevenson adapt Mission's interpretation of Johann Wolfgang Goethe's *Faust, der Tragödie Erster Teil*. Starting May 21, Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sun., May 24, 5 p.m. Continues through June 21. $18-$25. The Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. 510-841-6500. ShotgunPlayers.org.

Impact Briefs: Puberty Collection of short ten-minute plays about awkward moments in adolescence. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through June 6. $12-$17. La Val's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. 510-464-4468.

In My Corner Solo show by actor, singer, and US Air Force welterweight boxing champ Joe Orrach. Directed by [illegible] with original music by [illegible]. Proceeds benefit [illegible] School of the Arts. For info visit JoeOrrach.com. May 22-23, 7:30 p.m. $30. Black Box Theatre, 538 10th St., Oakland.

Misanthrope Gary Graves directs this Central Works Method play, loosely based on Molière's comedy about a man who despises the world. Starting May 22, Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m. Continues through June 21. $?? Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 510-558-1381. BerkeleyCityClub.com.

Oedipus Tyrannos Reinterpretation of the Greek tragedy by Sophocles. Thu., May 21, 8 p.m. $10. Hillinger Hall, 200 27th St., Oakland. 510-451-5815. Normandel.net.

The Spitfire Grill Kimberley Jabelli directs the Contra Costa Christian Theatre production, based on the film by Lee David Zlotoff. The story follows ex-con Percy Talbot as she tries to settle down and gain acceptance in the small town of Gilead. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8:15 p.m.; Sundays, 2:15 p.m. Continues through May 31. $18. Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek. 925-943-7469. DLRCA.org.

More Listings Online
Get info about dozens more theatrical events at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

COMEDY

All-Pro Comedy Showcase Wednesdays, 8 p.m. $10; free for college students w/ ID. Cobb's Comedy Club, 915 Columbus Ave., San Francisco. 415-928-4320. CobbsComedy.com.

"Comedy is Wicked!" Fourth Saturday of every month, 8 p.m. $10-$15. Englander Sport Pub, 101 Parrott St., San Leandro. 510-357-3571. EnglanderPub.com.

Comedy Night Hosted by Tony Sparks. Tuesdays, 9 p.m. free. Brainwash Cafe, 1122 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-861-3663. BrainWash.com.

Comedy Off Broadway With a rotating cast of comedians featured on HBO, Comedy Central, Late Night. Details: For info, visit ComedyOffBroadwayOakland.com. Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 31. $10. Washington Inn, 495 10th St., Oakland. 510-452-1776.

Comedy Upon Mic w/ Jerry Goldstone. Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m. free. Coffee Gallery and Lounge, 1200 [illegible] Ave., San Francisco. 415-564-0000. TheCoffeeGallery.com.

Comedy Showcase w/ Matt Morales. Sign up at 8:30 p.m. Mondays, 9 p.m. free. Rocco Room, 406 Clement St., San Francisco. 415-387-6344. Rock-It-Room.com.

Joy Lawrence and Tony Sparks: Benefit for the Fallen Officers of the Oakland Police Department Through May 22, 7:30 p.m.; through May 23, 5:30 p.m.; through May 24, 8 p.m. $15-$30. Tommy T's Comedy & Steakhouse, 5104 Hopyard Rd., Pleasanton. 925-227-1800.

Magic & Mirth w/ Big Al Catraz & Friends. Featuring you an [illegible] performance of magic and comedy guests. Saturdays, 8 p.m. $20. Off-Market Theater, Stage 250, 965 Mission St., San Francisco. 415-440-1170.

Comedy Make 'Em Ups: SF77 improv show. Mondays, 9:10 p.m. $5. San Francisco Comedy College, 414 Mason St. #705, San Francisco. 415-921-2051. SFComedyCollege.com.

Open Mic Comedy presented by SF Standup. Sundays, 8 p.m. free. Annie's Social Club, 917 Folsom St., San Francisco. 415-974-1585. AnniesSocialClub.com.

Open Mic Comedy Night Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. free. Englander Sport Pub, 101 Parrott St., San Leandro. 510-357-3571. EnglanderPub.com.

Pizza & Love Comedy Showcase Fridays, 8 p.m. $8. Spud's Pizza, 3290 Adeline St., Berkeley. 510-595-0785. SpudsPizza.net.

The [illegible] comedy variety show hosted by Paco Romane. Last Wednesday of every month, 7:30-10 p.m. $7. Make-Out Room, 3225 22nd St., San Francisco. 415-647-2888. MakeOutRoom.com.

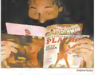
SF Comedy Showcase Sundays, 8 p.m. $8. Punch Line, 444 Battery St., San Francisco. 415-397-4337. SF.PunchlineComedyClub.com.

SF77: The Laughternoon featuring a variety of [illegible] and special guests. Thursdays, 8-9:20 p.m. $15. San Francisco Comedy College, 414 Mason St. #705, San Francisco. 415-921-2051. SFComedyCollege.com.

PICKS

Impact Briefs: Puberty

In its latest collection of short plays, Berkeley's Impact Theatre challenged itself to make puberty just a little less dreadful. The seven plays in ***Impact Briefs: Puberty*** have all the awkwardness of a Seventies-era sex-ed film (you can almost hear the reel getting stuck in the projector), but some of them are genuinely clever. Diana Bertonelli's "Birdie My Birdie" provides an imaginative satire of teen cybersex, while Cheshire Isaacs depicts a worst-case wet-dream scenario to great comic effect. Best of the bunch is David Kongst? Kongst's "The Talk," which puts a new spin on the old birds-and-bees (think how that conversation might have gone down in *Twilight*). In between sketches the actors read sex questions contributed by local middle and high school students. Hilarity ensues. Through June 6 at La Val's **Subterranean Theatre** (1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley). ImpactTheatre.com — *Rachel Swan*


Impact Briefs: Puberty.

Cheshire Isaacs

Luv

Murray Schisgal's 1964 Broadway play *Luv* was straight in its original form — i.e., "straight" as in heterosexual — though its humor was pretty barbed. Local director Alan Barkan took *Luv* in a different direction with his new production, which offers gay, lesbian, and straight versions of the same script (albeit with pronouns changed). The idea has aesthetic and social dimensions. On the one hand, Barkan wanted to show three different treatments of the same bumbling love story. On the other, he wanted to tell us that straight and queer people aren't all that different. We all fall in love, get jilted, and have jealous, underhanded ways of ironing out differences in a relationship. Actors Ensemble claims that you really have to see all three plays to get the full *Luv* experience. Barring that, I recommend the gay and lesbian versions. Through May 23 at Berkeley's **Live Oak Theatre** (1301 Shattuck Ave.). AETofBerkeley.org — *R.S*

THEATER

SHORT-LIVED, BUT PROMISING

PianoFight Productions launches its second playwriting competition, and lets you be the judge

By Rachel Swan

Stacy Marshall

Rob Ready asks Christy Crowley how she would feel about extracurricular affairs in "A Modest Proposal."

Actors Rob Ready and Dan Williams have a knack for self-deprecating humor. They describe their two-year-old company, PianoFight Productions, as the result of two guys getting bored with "whoring/boozing," and finding a more inventive way to squander their time. In reality, though, PianoFight is a micro-budget operation with a ton of potential. Give these guys a few years and they'll be battling Judd Apatow for pop-culture supremacy. They fit the part after all: Williams and Ready look like dudes you knew in high school. They're intellectuals who traffic in poop jokes. They'd find a way to blend into any subculture. All they lack is financial wherewithal.

PianoFight lives within its means, occupying a small black box in San Francisco's SoMa District, called Studio 250. The company's dossier includes several short theater works: a sketch comedy series called "The S.H.I.T. Show," several web videos, and even a short film. PianoFight also oversees a three-month playwriting competition that uses the audience as its jury. Called *Shortlived*, it's divided into two-week rounds with eight short plays per round. Audience members score each play on a scale of one to ten, and at the end of the round the four lowest-scoring plays get dropped and replaced by four new plays. Whoever wins at the end gets to write a full length play that PianoFight will produce for one month.

Ready, Williams, and fellow PianoFighter Eric Reid came up with the idea for *Shortlived* on a lark because they needed something to fill three months at their tiny performance space. It was a knock-out success: Last year's winner Daniel Heath penned the choose-your-own-adventure play *Forking!*, which traveled to Los Angeles after a solid San Francisco run. PianoFight received dozens more entries for this year's *Shortlived 2.0*, which meant a broader range of material to choose from. Most of it falls within the Gen Y comedy vein, with storylines about hook-ups, weird friends-with-benefits, social networking sites, farting at inopportune moments, or having to live with your momma. The plays are quick-witted, slangy, and full of contemporary references. The not-so-great ones devolve into puerile humor. The better ones build up to a punch line. The best ones verge on brilliance.

What most distinguished the plays in last week's Round 4 was their awareness of modern technology, both as a theme to explore and a device to propel the stories forward. Jaime King's "Club Face" showed what happens when you take the superficialities of Facebook and transfer them to a club setting. In contrast to Club Space down the block ("all robots and sex offenders pretending to be little girls") and that new joint Club Twitter (where people just yell at each other), Club Face is perfectly suited to the hook-up generation. You arrive with a "single/dating" placard hanging around your neck, submit five likes and dislikes at the door, and get "poked" by an old girlfriend — right before your mom and all your co-workers walk in. The idea isn't completely novel — BBC's *The Wall* did a similar Facebook skit last year — but the jokes haven't gone stale yet.

Similarly, "Domestic Surveillance" — a new submission by last year's champion Daniel Heath — took an old sitcom premise and gave it a modern spin. In Heath's version, mom worked for the National Security Agency, which gave her all the tools she needed to spy on her son and micro-manage his life. The setup was a perfect way to connect two universally appealing themes — anxiety about government wiretaps and contempt for an oppressive parent. And this mother was a piece of work, too. She paralyzed a city mass-transit system just to needle her son about a failed relationship. Abuse of power would be an understatement.

Script-wise, "Domestic Surveillance" was one of the three top contenders in Round 4, about on par with Steve Kopmann's "A Modest Proposal" (about the argument that ensues when a guy tries to "open up" his long-term relationship). Richard Medugno's "Cyrano Truncated" was arguably the best play overall. "Cyrano" stood out in particular because it was the only play that didn't use sex and relationships as part of the storyline. Rather, it hinged on a swashbuckling match between Cyrano de Bergerac and D'Artagnan, which resulted in Cyrano's nose getting hacked. The moral had something to do with rhinoplasty.

More impressive than the plays proper were the actors and directors of PianoFight, who are burdened with learning — and interpreting — four new plays every two weeks. The cast members vary in quality and are generally better at physical humor than at flesh-and-blood characters (you can tell they've all typecast themselves as a way of streamlining the process). Still, four plays in two weeks is no small feat. That alone tells you something about the amount of talent that's going into *Shortlived 2.0*. It's well worth checking out, even if you have trepidation about watching new, untested material. Remember, you get to cast judgment at the end. ●

Rachel.Swan@EastBayExpress.com

Show Details

Shortlived runs Friday through Saturday, April 4-June 27 in Studio 250 (Off-Market Theaters, 965 Mission St., San Francisco), 8 p.m. $15-$20. PianoFight.com

dance music theater

Cal Performances
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

2008–2009 Season

Mark Morris Dance Group
L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato
Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra
Jane Glover, conductor
Chamber Chorus of the University of California, Berkeley
Marika Kuzma, director
Fri & Sat, May 29 & 30, 8 pm, and Sun, May 31, 3 pm
Zellerbach Hall Tickets start at $36

On precious few occasions in each generation, a piece of art appears and is instantly recognized as a work for the ages, with the power to transform the way we see the world around us. Such a landmark is Mark Morris's brilliant and majestic *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato*. Set to Handel's oratorio of the same name and featuring 24 dancers, a full orchestra and chorus, and four vocal soloists, Morris's masterpiece returns to Cal Performances by overwhelming popular demand.

Bank of America

Bolshoi Ballet
La Bayadère
Berkeley Symphony Orchestra
Thu & Fri, June 4 & 5, 8 pm; Sat, June 6, 2 pm & 8 pm
and Sun, June 7, 3 pm; Zellerbach Hall Tickets start at $58

"The most gorgeous Kingdom of the Shades imaginable." [illegible]

Russia's legendary Bolshoi Ballet returns under new artistic director Yuri Burlaka, a dynamo [illegible] for his extraordinary revivals of 19th-century dance classics. [illegible] *La Bayadère* [illegible] the exotic backdrop of [illegible] culminating in the radiant choreography of "The Kingdom [illegible]. Accompanied by Berkeley Symphony Orchestra [illegible] features sumptuous sets and costumes and such [illegible] Svetlana Zakharova, Nikolai Tsiskaridze, Maria [illegible] Natalia Osipova and Andrei Uvarov.

[illegible] by The Bernard Osher Foundation

Ex Machina
The Blue Dragon
by Robert Lepage & Marie Michaud
Tue–Fri, June 9–12, 8 pm; Sat, June 13, 2 pm & 8 pm
Zellerbach Playhouse $76

[illegible] Robert Lepage himself, Marie Michaud, and [illegible] *The Blue Dragon* explores the paradox that [illegible] hallmarks of Lepage's [illegible] highly [illegible]. Celebrated around the world for his innovative [illegible] opera productions, including *The Rake's* [illegible] San Francisco Opera, *The Damnation of Faust* at [illegible] 1994 at the Royal Opera at Covent [illegible] boundary-breaking theatrical genius [illegible] following his critically acclaimed [illegible] and *The Far Side of the Moon*.

Order Online
www.calperformances.org

Charge by Phone
510 642.9988

Ticket Office Zellerbach Hall
Mon–Fri 12 noon – 5:30 pm
Sat–Sun 1 pm – 5 pm

Wells Fargo

102.1 KDFC

Groups of 10 or more save 15% on most events

RUSH Tickets $10–$20
Call 510.642.9988 ext 2

LECTURES & LIT

On the Outside, Looking In

Jacqueline Woodson's multi-award-winning fiction embraces the marginalized

Jacqueline Woodson

When siblings are separated against their will — when they're still too young to have accumulated a massive backlog of shared memories — how can they keep from drifting apart? In **Jacqueline Woodson**'s new novel *Peace, Locomotion* Lonnie and his little sister Lili are put into foster care with separate families after their parents die. The book's text comprises Lonnie's letters to Lili as he strives to maintain their closeness and, as he puts it, "be the rememberer" until they reunite. "In a few days," he writes at one point, "I'm going to be twelve. That means two things:

"1. You're going to be nine.

"2. In nine more years, I'll be twenty-one and old enough to take care of you by myself … I'll still be your big brother and kind of like the boss of you. But I won't be mean."

Woodson, who will discuss her work in the **Oakland Main Library's West Auditorium** (125 14th St., Oakland) on Thursday, May 21, has won scores of awards — including a Newbery medal and a Caldecott medal — for her nearly two dozen volumes for young readers. These range from picture books such as *Our Gracie Aunt* and *We Had a Picnic This Sunday Past* to young-adult novels such as *The Dear One*, *From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun*, and *Miracle's Boys*; the latter was made into a TV miniseries. Growing up in South Carolina and then in Brooklyn, to which Woodson moved at age seven and where she still lives, "I wrote on everything and everywhere. I remember my uncle catching me writing my name in graffiti on the side of a building. It was not pretty for me when my mother found out. I wrote on paper bags and my shoes and denim binders. I chalked stories across sidewalks."

Even then, she saw herself as an outsider several times over. This feeling expanded as she grew up. Being raised a Jehovah's Witness kept her outside the mainstream; she is now a lesbian mom. Outsiderism in its varying forms is a recurring theme in her books: *The Dear One* is about teenage pregnancy because when Woodson wrote it, "I was working with runaway and homeless young people — many of whom were pregnant. I wanted to write a novel that spoke to them." In *I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This*, a poor white girl makes friends with a rich African-American girl in a small Ohio town where "blacks and whites don't mix. … I wanted to write a novel about friendship and in it, I wanted to show how destructive racism and classism can be," Woodson remembers. Drawing its title from lines in an Audre Lorde poem, *If You Come Softly* addresses teenage interracial romance; the author calls it "a modern-day *Romeo and Juliet*."

But the barriers to bliss have shifted since Shakespeare's time, Woodson notes. "The enemies to Jeremiah and Ellie's love are racism, police brutality, and people's general stupidity." 1:30 p.m., free. OaklandLibrary.org

— *Anneli Rufus*

LECTURES

Bhopal Survivors Tour Commemorating survivors of the 1984 lethal gas leak from the Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal, India. Wed., May 27, 12:30-2:30 p.m., free. Women of Color Resource Center, 1611 Telegraph Ave. (Ste. 303), Oakland.

California Artist Chiura Obata Slide presentation by Kimi Kodani Hill, granddaughter of Chiura Obata and author of *Topaz Moon: Chiura Obata's Art of the Internment*. Thu., May 21, 7 p.m., free. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. 510-526-7512. CCCLib.org.

Free Introductory Talks on Meditation and Spiritual Lifestyle With guest speaker Sant Rajinder Singh. Wed., May 27, 7:30 p.m., free. Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St. (at Bonita St.), Berkeley. 510-841-4824. [illegible]

LITERARY EVENTS

Adina Sara Discussing *The Important Garden*. Thu., May 21, 7 p.m., free. Laurel Bookstore, 4100 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-531-2073.

Albany Library Evening Book Group [illegible] Gonzales facilitates this group, which features novels based on "the American experience." Third Wednesday of every month, 7-8 p.m., free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-526-3720. ACLibrary.org.

Albany Library Great Books Discussion Group Fourth Tuesday of every month, 1:30-2:30 p.m., free. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. 510-526-3720. ACLibrary.org.

Doug Dorsch Discussing and signing *The Imagination of the Heart*. Wed., May 20, 7 p.m., free. Diesel, 5433 College Ave., Oakland. 510-653-9965. DieselBookstore.com.

Bay Area Free Book Exchange Placing unwanted books with the people who want them. Saturdays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Continues through Dec. 1, free. Book Exchange, 10120 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-526-5988.

Sarah Hodges & Leila Brattack: America's War Against Iraqi Children Lecture sponsored by the Middle East Children's Alliance. Wed., May 20, 7-10 p.m., $12-$15. Martin Luther King Auditorium, 1781 Rose St. (at Martin Luther King Middle School), Berkeley. 510-644-0200.

C.M. Mayo Reading from her novel *The Last Prince of the Mexican Empire*. Fri., May 22, 7:30 p.m., free. Mrs. Dalloway's Literary and Garden Arts, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley. 510-704-8222. MrsDalloways.com.

Readers' Branch Book Discussion Group A monthly library circle for adults. Fourth Monday of every month, 6:30-8 p.m. Oakland Public Library, [illegible] Branch, 3[illegible] Fruitvale Ave., Oakland. 510-535-5880. OaklandLibrary.org.

D.J. Readers [illegible] Wed., May 20, 8:30 p.m., free. Books Inc., 1344 Park St., Alameda. 510-522-2226. BooksInc.net.

Hayward Public Library Book Sale Sat., May 23, [illegible] a.m.-2 p.m., free. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward. 510-293-8685. Library.hayward-ca.gov.

Jacqueline Woodson Discussing *Peace, Locomotion*. Thu., May 21, 1:30 p.m., free. Oakland Main Library, 125 14th Street, Oakland.

Katie Hafner Discussing *A Romance on Three Legs: Glenn Gould's Obsessive Quest for the Perfect Piano*. Wed., May 27, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087.

Kensington Library Book Club Fourth Monday of every month, 7 p.m. Kensington Branch Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. 510-524-3043.

Readers' Branch Book Discussion Group Fourth Monday of every month, 6 p.m. Oakland Public Library, Melrose Branch, 4805 Foothill Blvd., Oakland. 510-535-5623. OaklandLibrary.org.

Seeds of the World/La Palabra Musical With MamaCoAtl. Fourth and [illegible] Sunday of every month, 3:30 p.m., free. Rebecca's Books, 3268 Adeline St., Berkeley.

OPL Golden Gate Book Discussion Group Come share your enjoyment of reading with others in the community. Fourth Monday of every month, 6:30 p.m. Oakland Public Library, Golden Gate Branch, 5606 San Pablo Ave., Oakland. 510-597-5023. OaklandLibrary.org.

Poetry Slam Readers: Timothy Green and Joel Barraquiel Tan Thu., May 21, 7:30 p.m., free. Moe's Books, 2476 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2087.

Readers' Roundtable Club Fourth Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m., free. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito. 510-526-7512. CCCLib.org.

Sharing Books We Love Club members take turns discussing a book that inspired them. Led by Carol Chetkin. Last Wednesday of every month, 12:30 p.m., $1 suggested. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

PUBLIC INTEREST

Berkeley Liberation Radio Fundraising Thursdays, 7 p.m., free. Long Haul, 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-540-0751.

PICKS

C.M Mayo

When Louis Napoleon invaded Mexico and installed Maximilian von Habsburg, the Archduke of Austria, as its emperor, government south of the border got very strange. In her novel *The Last Prince of the Mexican Empire*, which she will discuss at **Mrs. Dalloway's** (2904 College Ave., Berkeley) on Friday, May 22, **C.M. Mayo** captures that grand disaster, during which childless Maximilian claimed someone else's toddler as his heir. 7:30 p.m., free. MrsDalloways.com — *Anneli Rufus*

Lunar Lecture

Why explore the moon? Should we land there again? At the **Hayward Main Library** (835 C St. at Mission Blvd., Hayward) on Friday, May 22, NASA representative **Yvonne Clearwater** presents a lecture and interactive program for young listeners (aimed at sixth graders and up) on how lunar visits enrich scientific knowledge about the solar system and the universe in general, as well as the history of Earth. 3:30 p.m., free. Library.hayward-ca.gov — *A.R.*

Yvonne Clearwater

Pamela McDonald

Giving the phrase "Help yourself" a whole new meaning, physician **Pamela McDonald** believes that we can stave off high cholesterol, heart problems, Alzheimer's Disease, and obesity by utilizing our own DNA to pinpoint the most healthful diet for each of us, with no two quite alike. At the **Dublin Public Library** (200 Civic Plaza, Dublin) on Saturday, May 23, McDonald discusses her book *The APO E Gene Diet*, which has been endorsed by Andrew Weil. 2 p.m., free. ACLibrary.org — *A.R.*

Will Keepin and Cynthia Brix

Domestic violence is an open secret in India, where Maher, an interfaith shelter for battered women near Pune, has saved some 1,900 women from probable death. Firsthand accounts fill a new book about Maher, *Women Healing Women: A Model of Hope for Oppressed Women Everywhere*. Authors **Will Keepin** and **Cynthia Brix** discuss it at the **Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists Hall** (1924 Cedar St., Berkeley) on Sunday, May 24. 4:30 p.m., free. BFUU.org — *A.R.*

We Finally Escaped Our Pricey Dot-Com Era Lease

(The East Bay Express has moved.) Our new address is 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607

EAST BAY EXPRESS

BODY&SOUL

Alms for the Pore

Homemade herbal skincare products save you money – and your cells

Even the costliest name-brand skincare products are mass-produced. We don't all wear the exact same eyeglass prescription. Why, then, would we all buy the exact same night cream? Our skins are as individual as we are, with minute variations dependent on climate, age, genetics, health, and life experience.

"The skincare needs of a young hormonally reactive teenager are much different from those of a menopausal woman," says Cheryl Fromholzer, who will help participants determine their specific needs and concoct aromatic herbal facial steams, facial masks, skin toners, facial serums, and other products during an **herbal cosmetics class** at **the Ohlone Center of Herbal Studies** (1654 University Ave., Berkeley) on Thursday, May 21. "Learning what natural ingredients work for your skin type is very empowering."

Cheryl Fromholzer

A Western Clinical Herbalist who produces her own line of vegan skincare products, Fromholzer says her interest in the subject started "with handmade holiday gifts. I love being creative. I got bored making the same old jellies and jams and started branching out into bath salts and body oils. ... I've always felt a deep connection to the natural world and understood the healing power of plants. One thing led to another and soon I was making natural perfumes and facial-care products for friends and family."

Along with strong and sometimes even toxic synthetic components, commercial cosmetics often also include animal products. If you don't eat meat or wear leather, why rub the rest of the creature into your face? Fromholzer cites lanolin and keratin among many ubiquitous animal-based commercial ingredients. By contrast, she asks, "Who doesn't love working with aromatic essential oils and fragrant herbs? It's delightful."

The Ohlone Center, which moved to Berkeley from Walnut Creek nine years ago, is a teaching facility and dispensary. Director Pam Fischer thinks of the center as part of "a movement toward getting Western herbs back into the fold." So many Americans, Fischer laments, make it a point to "understand Chinese or ayurvedic herbs, but they don't understand their own herbs — the stuff right under their feet. The exotic is very fun," she accedes, "but chickweed rocks." She calls the skincare class a form of "community education." Commercial cosmetics, she explains, often feature a few highly vaunted natural ingredients immersed in synthetic fillers: "Avocado is pretty good. Sure, we can dry it and mix it with a bunch of inert stuff and sell it back to you at ten times the price" — or you can just learn how to apply it directly to your hair and skin.

Along with the products created at the workshop itself, Fromholzer will distribute recipes for easy at-home spa treatments such as salt and sugar scrubs and bath tisanes.

"Chemistry class," she says, "never smelled this good." 7 p.m., $65. OhloneCenter.com

— Anneli Rufus

HEALTH & WELLNESS

How to Get Your Genetics and Genes to Work for You Pamela McDonald [illegible] benefits of the ApoE gene diet. Thu., May 21, 7-8 p.m., free. San Ramon Library, 100 Montgomery St., San Ramon. 925-973-2850.

Use Integrative Medicine to Maintain [illegible] Pamela McDonald discusses the ApoE gene. Wed., May 27, 4 p.m., free. [illegible] Public Library, 200 Civic Plaza, [illegible]. 925-828-1315. www.aclibrary.org/[illegible]

PERSONAL GROWTH

Emotional Recovery A weekly meeting to discuss life-changing principles. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. [illegible] Community Church, 551 MacArthur Blvd., San Leandro. 510-420-8857. [illegible]

Climate of Dependency Workshops A weekly workshop for users, friends of users, relatives of users, and spouses of users. [illegible] weekly Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, free. Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Health Education Center, 400 Hawthorne Ave., Oakland. 510-655-4000.

Drop-In Dream Group David Jenkins, Ph.D. facilitates this weekly discussion group, for which no experience is necessary. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, $10. Practical Dreamwork, 554 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-844-2369. PracticalDreamwork.com.

Food for Thought Readings by Berkeley psychic Jessica [illegible]. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m., [illegible] Gravity Food Gallery, 1950 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley. 510-644-4464.

Mandana Community Recovery Center Friday Night Meditation Meditation history, readings, and breath techniques, [illegible]. Fridays, 8-9 p.m. Free for Mandana CRC members, $3 for nonmembers. Mandana Community Recovery Center, [illegible] Howe St., Oakland. 510-595-8080.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

Adventures in Dream Learning Multi-interest day lecture series. Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.-noon, $7, $100 for a 20-lecture series. Temple Beth Sholom, 642 Dolores Ave., San Leandro. 510-381-8505. TempleBethSholom.org.

Core Curriculum: Oakland/Nights Courses open to everyone, but highly recommended for people interested in leadership positions in the church. An optional potluck dinner at 6 p.m. will precede [illegible] and programs (7:30 p.m.). Call for schedule. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

The Heart of Islam: Essentials of Islamic Religion and Spirituality This information course gives the essentials of Islamic beliefs and spiritual practices, from the reality of God to the history of prophets to Sufism and Islamic ethics. Thursdays, 7-8:45 p.m. Continues through May 28, $8 per class. Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, 1433 Madison St., Oakland.

LGBT Meditation Group Vipassana meditation practice. E-mail [illegible] Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m., free. East Bay Meditation Center, 2147 Broadway Ave., Oakland. 510-268-0696. EastBayMeditation.org.

Personal Theology Seminars Guest speakers every week. Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., free. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

Heart Surrender The Tibetan and [illegible] 12:20 p.m. [illegible] Thursdays, 12:15-12:45 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

Thursday Evening Core Curriculum Programs Exploring Unitarian Universalist Theology, first Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Exploring Prayer and Spiritual Practices for Unitarian Universalists, second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Exploring Unitarian Universalist Heritage and Tradition, third Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Exploring World Religions, fourth Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Exploring Theological Perspectives, fifth Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Lawson Rd., Berkeley. 510-525-0302. UUCB.org.

YOGA & BODYWORK

InterPlay as a Life Practice Cynthia Winton-Henry and other InterPlay leaders lead an ongoing class on moving, breathing, improvising, and playing. Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m. $10-$20. InterPlayce, 2273 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 510-465-2797. InterPlay.org.

Tai Chi, Meditation, and Qigong With Jeffrey Kessler. Thursdays, 6 p.m., $50-$70 per month. [illegible] 3015 Prince St., Berkeley. 510-704-9887. [illegible]

PICKS

Herbal Medicine Class

Lacking Advil and Viagra, our ancestors used leaves, berries, roots, flowers, and fruit to cure their ills. At the **Ecology Center** (2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley) on Sunday, May 24, an all-day course in the **Fundamentals of Herbal Medicine** is the first in a series of five. Learn basic anatomy, plant identification, preparation methods, usage, and more. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., $175. To register: 510-548-2220 ext. 239 or register@ecologycenter.org. *— Anneli Rufus*

Meditation Course

Love isn't easy, but meditation can help. At the **East Bay Meditation Center** (2147 Broadway, Oakland) on Saturday, May 23, Spring Washam presents **Free Your Heart: A Transformational Workshop for Exploring Love**. The all-day workshop focuses on learning to share, using meditation, music, and discussion. 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., donation suggested. To register: EastBayMeditation.org. *— A.R.*

Shantala

The world's first music was spiritual music. At **YogaKula** (1700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley) on Saturday, May 23, Benjy and Heather Wertheimer — better known as the vocal/percussion duo **Shantala** — perform sacred, ethereal ecstatic tunes as well as call-and-response devotional chanting. The pair has toured with sacred-music luminaries Krishna Das and Jai Uttal. 7:30 p.m., $20-$25. To register: YogaKula.com or 510-486-0264. *— A.R.*

Spiritual Sites Photo Exhibition

Viewing photos of the world's most spiritual places is the next best thing to being there.

Doug Ellis

At John F. Kennedy University's **School of Holistic Studies gallery** (2956 San Pablo Ave., 2nd Floor, Berkeley) on Friday, May 22, award-winning photographer Linda Connor launches *Odyssey*, her exhibition of work depicting sites of contemplation and mystery around the world. 7:30 p.m., free. RSVP: JFKU.edu *— A.R.*

What's Happening Tonight?

Find out.

EastBayExpress.com
m.EastbayExpress.com

GRAND OPENING!
Sequoia Healing Clinic & Spa
[illegible]
WOMEN & MEN WELCOME
[illegible]
FREE 1 HOUR PARKING
$5 OFF any service

we heart $10 yoga*
square one yoga collective.com
4330-A San Pablo Ave. Emeryville
new students/first week/3 classes/$15

ALOUETTE MASSAGE STUDIO
THERAPEUTIC & SWEDISH MASSAGE
OAKLAND
9AM-9PM
510 835 3811
1000 E 12th St

Mind, Body, Spirit

CALL TO ADVERTISE 510-879-3801

Earth Circles Counseling Center
Holistic Psychotherapy
Help with tough times.
We offer effective compassionate guidance with addiction, depression & anxiety, eating disorders, LGBT issues, relationships, self esteem, spiritual issues, trauma & grief. Sliding Scale
EarthCirclesCounseling.com
PH 510-601-1929

Suffering with anxiety or depression?
Think no one understands? Lucinda Bassett does. Get her free tape that will stop the suffering without drugs or alcohol.
Call 800-652-9619 (AAN CAN)

$30/Session/Vets Free
Hypnotherapist Rick HH CA approved HCH Institute Lafayette BART
hypnotherapytraining.com 925-283-3941

Health Care Service
In focus on massage and masseur offer Thai Style, Swedish, Deep Tissue, Relaxation, Sport Massage Therapeutic Massage, Foot Massage and Stress Reduction Pain Relief
311 12th Ave/Clement St.
San Francisco, CA 94118
2438 Taraval St./34th Ave
San Francisco, CA 94116
415-203-9853 lic #01296

NHI Trained Masseur
Offering Swedish, Sports and Deep Tissue Massage. Intuitive, Strong and Energetic. Deep to Gentle Touch. North Oakland Location. Willing to travel to you for a nominal fee.
$65/60 min. $90/90 min.
510-499-8674 Hector

Sequoia Healing Clinic & Spa
Acupuncture, Acupressure, Stress Management and Tui na Therapy/Deep Tissue.
Monday-Saturday 10am-8pm
women & men welcome
1726 Franklin St. Oakland, Ca. 94612
510-836-3888

Therapy Massage
35 Quail Ct. Room #300
Walnut Creek, 925-952-9567

Medical Marijuana Evaluations
Professional and Affordable
Compassionate Health Options
510-605-0420 or 415-255-1200

Laser and Skin Salon
At Urban Allure we are proud to offer Laser Hair Removal, Environ Rx Facials, Intense Pulsed Light treatments and other customized aesthetic services and products to help you achieve a fresher you.
urbanalluresf.com
415-399-1300

New Dispensary in Richmond
7 Stars Holistic Healing Center
Located in the Pacific East Mall
3288 Pierce St Suite# M108
(2nd floor) Richmond
510-527-STARS (7827)

Got Neck Pain?
Free Report exposes why medical treatment doesn't work for whiplash! Free DVD "The 3 phases of Healing After a Whiplash Accident"
www.gotneckpain.info or call 510.558.0164

Suffering with anxiety or depression?
Think no one understands? Lucinda Bassett does. Get her free tape that will stop the suffering without drugs or alcohol.
Call 800-652-9619 (AAN CAN)

Free Counseling Berkeley Free Clinic
Peer Counseling Collective
Drop in Mon-Thu 6:45-9pm
2339 Durant, Berkeley, CA
freepeercounseling@gmail.com
510-548-2570 ext. 2250

Sexual Health Therapy
Specializing in Men Over 50
Beat Erectile Dysfunction
www.ntouchmassage.com
Holistic CMT 510-663-8164

Studio Abasi
A tranquil, boutique skin care, waxing, and makeup studio. We offer a wide array of skin care solutions and spa services. Licensed Esthetician, Shannon Carter, Specializes in Skin Care, Facials, Peels, Masks, Vacuotherapie.
510-665-3544 skincare@studioabasi.com
2941 College Avenue Berkeley, CA 94705

We Take the Guesswork Out of Dating
Video Introductions offers videos, compatibility testing, photo & identity verification, personal services, plus a 50% average success rate from your choices of real singles.
Free and other plans.
www.VideoIntroductions.com
925-676-2399

Discover what the media isn't telling you about Oakland's Measure Z.
oaklandmzinfo.com

East Bay Compassionate Delivery Service
Quality Medical Cannabis discreetly and reliably to your door. **510-607-2564**

Living With Illness?
As a physician doing medical counseling, I work with people/families who live with illness, pain or medical conditions. Together we explore the mind-body connection using tools such as guided imagery and meditation which can make medical treatments work better and decrease stress. Also I help people understand the often confusing world of the healthcare system, and how to choose the best treatments (standard and alternative). Let's talk about it. Danielle Rosenmen, M.D.
510-701-0134 medicalcounseling.net

AQUARIUM AGE

A WEEK OF CLARITY AND INVENTION

For the week of May 20-26, 2009

By Raffee Finn

The planets are aligned in simple patterns this week, and their simplicity offers opportunities for clarity. Don't get me wrong — the seemingly incessant intensity of daily life does not disappear. We're still in Mercury Retrograde after all, which translates into an unrelenting need to pay attention to the smallest of details. But overall, we get a little break, and if you're as tired as I am, the lack of astral complexity is a welcome relief.

We're in the last ten days of Mercury Retrograde, which means we're in the last days of a slow-mo rewind review of most if not all things in our individual lives related to communication. Conversations, letters, e-mails, contracts, negotiations, term papers and everything connected to computers — if language is being used at all — is certain to have suffered during this retrograde. Mercury goes Direct on May 30, but we probably won't feel the keen wind of its forward motion until June 1 or 2. Remember: The don't-initiate-anything-new rule still applies for three days after Mercury turns around. So try not to let frustration motivate you to jump the gun.

But there is good news about the last days of this Mercury Retrograde phase. First, from this week until the middle of June, Mercury squares the Jupiter/Neptune/Chiron conjunction, a powerful interaction that amplifies altruistic endeavors. As Mercury squares this conjunction, it activates imagination as it simultaneously stimulates inspiration. Be prepared for lots of ideas, all of which could have a strong visual component capable of revealing the entire design in one great flash of brilliance. This square also stimulates conversation — lots and lots of conversation. So if you are a writer, spend your words on paper before they slip away through dialogue or idle chatter.

The second bit of good news is a Mercury/Uranus sextile, which also is in effect through the middle of June. This positive union generates an inventive mindset, as it simultaneously encourages all sorts of interests, from the technical to the intuitive. This is one of my most favorite interactions because it provides the potential to shift out of stagnant patterns. It also provides the energy to break free from intellectual habitations that inhibit rather than enhance creativity and transformation. The best news about this Mercury/Uranus sextile is that it has the capacity to employ the altruistic intentions of the Jupiter/Neptune conjunction by providing dazzling flashes of how those humanitarian longings can be actualized. Remember, Uranus embodies the thunderbolts and lightning of change, often thought to be guided by divine intention. And those Uranian thunderbolts have the power to illuminate previously unseen or unconsidered choices.

It's a good week to clarify confusing situations, even and especially those circumstances that seem mired in muck. You'll need to be direct and precise, but you'll also need to be patient with yourself and others.

If you know your Ascendant and/or your Moon Sign, read that, too.

ARIES It's a choice: Get lost in potent emotions that could distract, or take a deep breath, refuse to engage in petty squabbles, and stay focused on success. Sounds like a no-brainer, but keeping your feelings in check will take some doing.

TAURUS Seize the opportunity for clarity, especially in your career concerns, and you'll be able to sort through what's important to you and what isn't, which will create the perfect environment to make any necessary adjustments and improvements.

GEMINI You're still dealing with a lot of difficult decisions, but that doesn't mean you're not up to the challenge of making the right choices. Take a moment to prioritize your goals and you'll find it easier to organize your time and energy.

CANCER Use this time to sort through difficult interactions with friends and/or significant others. Be aware: This isn't so much about who's right; it's about understanding how unconscious motivations, yours or others', may affect the situation.

LEO Try not to rule out inspirational encounters with people who will not only stimulate your creative process but also assist you in gaining greater clarity. Stay open to vital positive feedback, and you'll make tangible gains.

VIRGO The trick is figuring out how to be patient, innovative and grounded all at the same time. I'm not saying it can't be done; I'm saying it must be done. And if anyone can combine these three approaches, it's you.

LIBRA Your week actually is all about balance, especially maintaining your creative equilibrium. If you are rigorously honest about what matters most, you'll be able to handle the subtle and not so subtle changes with ease.

SCORPIO At first glance the situation at home appears unsettled, but a deeper look will reveal a strong current of change. If you can tolerate the uncertainty for a little while longer, you'll be pleased with the outcome.

SAGITTARIUS Yes, there are mixed messages from significant others, personal and professional, but that doesn't mean you need to be confused. So rather than react, sort through each situation one step at a time.

CAPRICORN Your current financial picture isn't as much about lack as it's about security. Use the clarity of the week to review your finances and see if you can come up with an innovative solution that will shift your attitude.

AQUARIUS You have complete permission to feel confident in your choices, so go ahead and share your opinions. Not every idea will stick, but some of them will make a real difference.

PISCES Try not to worry if some of what's said is repetitious — we're in a retrograde, and that means repetition is assumed. And by the way, some things are definitely worth repeating. ●

For More Info

Raffee Finn specializes in Transformational Astrology. For readings, call 1-888-937-9264 or write P.O. Box 343, New York, NY 10025; visit AquariumAge.com or e-mail Raffee@AquariumAge.com. Copyright © 2009 by Raffee Finn.

FOOD & DRINK

MASTER-CLASS SANDWICHES

They're simple. They're humble. And we take them for granted.

By Anneli Rufus

Sandwiches weren't made to love. They were made to transport. Their bread is wrapper, napkin, and utensil all rolled into one. They are the Samsonite of foods. And if they sometimes make us swoon, that is a luxury, a novelty, and not because they must.

Yet a mobile society buys sandwiches in droves. Downtown Berkeley — which is hardly a metropolis — sports twelve restaurants whose raison d'être is cold substances between hunks of bread and whose to-go orders outnumber eat-ins. Given such a glut, how to choose?

With a taste-test.

Which must also be a weight test, because sandwiches vary widely in size if not in price.

For example, an avocado-cream-cheese sandwich made at People's Deli, served on fresh but thinly sliced sourdough bread and melt-in-your-mouthily soft, was barely big enough at ten ounces to satisfy a standard just-walked-two-miles appetite. Its avocado-cream-cheese counterpart at nearby Lee's was even slighter at nine ounces. First sandwich commandment: *Stratagem*. Eggs are cheaper than cheese and avocados. Thus egg salad sandwiches can be comparatively big. The olive-egg-salad at Lee's weighed fifteen ounces. Its sunny, spoonworthy, mustard-infused egg exploded over a stratum of chopped black olives the mustard kind, plus an iceberg of iceberg. Its rye slices, dull bordering on day-old, were reminders that picking popular breads (e.g., sourdough, mulatto 'baguette') ensures getting fresher bread. High turnover, you know. Rye is always an oddball.

Hot pickled peppers intrude harshly on the mellow glamour of a Swiss-cheese thirteen-ouncer at Grub-N-Go. Its chewy sourdough roll dripping with oil and vinegar. Closed on weekends and popular with students, GNG serves hot sandwiches, too. These, such as the lofty, milky, rich, thirteen-ounce "Mushroom Mozzarella" and colossal eighteen-ounce "Vegetarian" — bursting with roasted eggplant, roasted mushrooms, roasted peppers, cheese, basil, fistfuls of spinach, and three different mustards — qualify as three-course meals.

Ordering can be confusing at the Sandwich Zone: Grab a form at the counter, fill it out. But whatever you ask for will come fast. This is rare. The dirty secret about deli sandwiches these days is that most are neither cheap nor quick. At home, you whip one up in seconds. But paying about the same as for a Chinese lunch, you wait and wait and wonder why. Not at the Sandwich Zone, where our thirteen-ounce Deluxe Veggie arrived in a blink. Heaped with lettuce, tomato, sprouts, pepper cheese, and onion, it was basically a salad in a French roll, uninspired but crisp and quick. An eleven-ounce avocado-veggie was just as fast, just as refreshing, just as workaday.

Around the corner at Addison Annex (here too, use an order form), brie joins spinach and sun-dried tomatoes for an elegant nine-ounce surprise whose intensely sweet/sharp/creamy contrast compensates for its small size. AA's eleven-ounce artichoke-feta combo demonstrates again what ingenuity can bring to sandwiches.

E-Z Stop Deli
2233 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley
510-548-8544, Alkos.com/EZStopDeli

Sample Menu
Egg-Salad Sandwich $3.99
Avocado and Cheese Sandwich $3.99

Grub-N-Go
2509 Allston Way, Berkeley
510-540-5287, GrubNGo.com

Sample Menu
Mushroom Mozzarella Sandwich $5.50
Cheese Sandwich $4.50

The authentic sandwiches at E-Z Stop Deli evoke times of yore.

Sonya Pacelli

But do we want it to? Does sandwiches' allure, if it exists, lie in the comforting product of habit — or in the realm of possibility? Bread is a blank slate, after all. Or are we marooned in the past? The sandwich is the emblem of a Western childhood. In our school lunchboxes, sandwiches were plaintive souvenirs of Mom. That jelly, that bologna ran deep. What are sandwiches to us? What are they *for*? If all dishes were rendered suddenly the same in crucial ways — equally quick to make, equally portable, priced equally — *how many of us would buy sandwiches?*

Quietly, humbly, they are arguably the most eaten food in the United States. Yet they're also the least-considered. Who thinks about sandwiches? And sure, sometimes we dress them up — the sauerkraut corned beef thing, the chutney-prawn — but what other food can be made with such disinterest and disrepute? We picture sandwiches limp, damp, fingernail-high, white slices smeared with jam or separated by a single cold cut, shoved on trays through slots in prison doors. Punishment food, to force confessions.

That said, what do we deserve to demand from a sandwich? What is it when it is at its best? The answer lies at E-Z Stop.

Sandwich Zone is the fastest, and one of the cheapest. Addison Annex is creative. Grub-N-Go exuberant. Viceroy Cafe, adjoining the Viceroy Indian restaurant, is the newest and hands-down cheapest, with triple-decker made-to-order sandwiches starting at $1.99 and with a $2.99 sandwich/drink/chips deal. Viceroy's fare is nostalgic not just in price but in practice, crustless light wheat slices layered with shredded lettuce, American-style cheese, tomato, and oodles of mayo, served in triangles speared with frill-topped toothpicks. The tender tandoori-chicken version is irresistible. People's Cafe ties the ambience contest — its interior is one of Downtown's best, sporting colorful murals, mosaics, and bookshelves amply stocked — with Lee's, which moved last month into the former premises of Alohana Hawaiian Grill and kept the tiles. (Lee's also kept Alohana's menu and serves double-Spam *musubi*.) E-Z Stop, meanwhile, builds towers tall and solid on sourdough rolls so fresh that I would gladly eat them plain. At E-Z Stop, the authenticity of this roll and the volume of its contents evoke times of yore, that gentle generosity of delis in the eon before Subway, when confident countermen asked gently, "All the trimmings, miss?" and sliced onions with bravura and seemed to care. Our fourteen-ounce avocado-and-Swiss is a can't-fit-your-mouth-around-it block comprising an entire avocado, several thick slices of cheese, and fistfuls of raw produce. A seventeen-ounce egg-salad sandwich, black-pepper bits spiking its silky smoothness, soars four inches tall. These are master-class sandwiches: plainly exquisite, exquisitely plain. ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

Alameda natural grocery
the marketplace
1650 park street
510 865 1500
alamedanaturalgrocery.com

Saffron Gourmet
SUMMER SALE 20-30% OFF SELECTED ITEMS

CLAREMONT DINER
2 for 1
ENJOY ONE COMPLIMENTARY ENTREE WHEN A SECOND ENTREE OF EQUAL OR GREATER VALUE IS PURCHASED
6200 CLAREMONT AVE
OAKLAND 655 5455

Progressive Politics, Culture, and the Sustainable Life.

green
960AM

The Truth, 24/7.

RESTAURANTS & CAFES

This guide only lists restaurants recommended by Express food critics. You can find complete reviews for all of these restaurants at EastBayExpress.com. Our print listings rotate regularly, as space allows. Our complete Dining Guide is available online, where it is searchable by neighborhood, cuisine, price, and more. Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately. $—up to $10 per person. $$—$10–$25. $$$—$25–$50. $$$$—more than $50.

RICHMOND & NORTH

El Chalan 3-41 [illegible] Pablo Dam Rd., El Sobrante, 510-[illegible] (Latino/Peruvian/South American) $$

Daimo Chinese Restaurant 3288A Pierce St. (in the Pacific East Mall), Richmond, 510-527-3888 (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$$

The Dead Fish 20050 San Pablo Ave., Crockett, 510-787-3323 (American/Seafood) $$$-$$$$

[illegible] City Cafe 109 Park Pl., Richmond, 510-[illegible] (American/California Cuisine) $$

[illegible] 5400 San Pablo Dam Rd., El Sobrante, 510-223-8015 (Central American) $

[illegible] 10644-10648 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-528-0818 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

[illegible] Thai 12860 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, 510-235-1223 (Vietnamese) $-$$

Ristorante Due Golfi 1100 [illegible] Dr., Pinole, 510-222-5891 (Italian) $$

[illegible] 12200 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, 510-232-8642 (Southeast Asian/Thai/[illegible]) $-$$

Taqueria La Bamba 12345 San Pablo Ave., Richmond, 510-235-2288 (Central American/Mexican/Salvadoran) $

Yuet Kai Seafood Restaurant 10150 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-528-0847 (Chinese/Seafood) $-$$

ALBANY, KENSINGTON & BERKELEY-SOLANO

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1591 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-8185 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Bua Luang 1166 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-527-8288 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Vegetarian) $

[illegible] Taqueria 1881 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-528-1881 (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

Cafe Raj 1158 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-524-5687 (Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

China Village 1335 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-525-2285 (Chinese) $-$$

Christopher's Berkeley Fancy Cafe 1019 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-1101 (American/Southwestern) $-$$

Fonda 1501A Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-559-9006 (Mexican/Nuevo Latino/Organic/Sustainable/South American/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

[illegible] [illegible] Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-524-3611 (Chinese) $$

[illegible] 1235 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-8325 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Nizza La Bella 825-827 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-2552 (French/Italian) $$$

Rivoli 1539 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-2542 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

[illegible] 1045 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-2376 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$

Sam's Log Cabin 945 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-558-0494 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] 1? San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-525-7080 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$

[illegible] Bistro 1715 Solano Ave., Berkeley, 510-525-8830 (Tapas/Small Plates/Vietnamese) $$

Full Reviews Online

About 500 reviews searchable by food, region and price at EastBayExpress.com or m.EastBayExpress.com

BERKELEY-NORTH

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2827 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Cafe Gratitude 1730 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 415-824-4652 (Organic/Sustainable/Vegetarian/Vegan) $$

Cafe [illegible] 1805 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-558-7711 (Bakery/Sandwiches) $

Celia's [illegible] Restaurant 1640 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-5460 (Mexican) $-$$

Cha-Am 1543 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-9664 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

Chez Panisse 1517 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5525 (Downstairs)/510-548-5049 (cafe) (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$-$$$$

Gioia Pizzeria 1586 Hopkins St., Berkeley, 510-528-4692 (Organic/Sustainable/Pizza) $

Gregoire 2109 Cedar St., Berkeley, 510-883-1893 (French/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Saul's Restaurant and Delicatessen 1475 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-3354 (Deli/Kosher/Halal/Organic/Sustainable) $$

BERKELEY-DOWNTOWN

Angeline's Louisiana Kitchen 2261 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-6900 (Southern/Soul Food) $$

[illegible] 1845 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/French/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

Cafe Tibet 2020 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-5514 (Tibetan) $-$$

Downtown Bar and Restaurant 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-3810 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-8277 (Brewpub/Pizza) $$

Long Life Vegi House 2129 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6072 (Chinese/Organic/Sustainable/Seafood/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

La Note 2377 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-1535 (Breakfast/Brunch/French) $-$$

Oscar's 1890 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2254 (American/Diner) $

Platano 2043 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-0325 ([illegible]) $-$$

Pomegranate 1800 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-665-1581 (Turkey/Middle Eastern) $$

[illegible] 2125 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-6881 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Thai Delight Cuisine 1700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-0611 (Organic/Sustainable/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

Tuk Tuk Thai Cafe 2468 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-8500 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $-$$

Udupi Palace 1901 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-6600 (Indian/Pakistani/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Zatar 1981 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-1981 (California Cuisine/Greek/Turkish/Middle Eastern/Organic/Sustainable/Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$-$$$

BERKELEY-WEST & EMERYVILLE

Betty's Oceanview Diner 1807 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-644-3230 (American/Diner/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Brennan's Restaurant 720 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-0960 (American) $

Cafe Fanny 1603 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-524-5447 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 1303 [illegible] St., Emeryville, 510-923-0893 (Mexican) $$

[illegible] 1820 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

[illegible] and Sweets 824 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-1200 (Bakery/Indian/Pakistani) $

Juan's Place 941 Carleton St., Berkeley, 510-845-1904 (Mexican) $-$$

KC's Bar-B-Que 2613 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1840 (Barbecue) $-$$

Lois the Pie Queen 851 60th St., Emeryville, 510-658-5616 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

O Chamé 1830 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-841-8783 (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine/Japanese/Sushi/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Picante 1328 Sixth St., Berkeley, 510-525-3121 (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe 4081 Hollis St., Emeryville, 510-594-1221 (American/Diner) $-$$

[illegible] 3021 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville, 510-547-9228 (Southern/Soul Food) $$

[illegible] Market and Deli 598 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-486-0882 (Deli/Seafood) $

Tacubaya 1788 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-525-5160 (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable/Tapas/Small Plates) $-$$

Townhouse Bar & Grill 5862 Doyle St., Emeryville, 510-652-6151 (California Cuisine) $$-$$$

Vik's 726 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-644-4412 (Indian/Pakistani/Tapas/Small Plates) $

BERKELEY-SOUTH

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market (Derby St. at Martin Luther King Jr. Way), Berkeley, 510-548-3333 (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Finfinë 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-883-9307 (African/Ethiopian/Eritrean) $$

Holy Land 2965 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-665-1672 (Middle Eastern) $

Homemade Cafe 2454 Sacramento St., Berkeley, 510-845-1940 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/Diner) $

Kirala 2100 Ward St., Berkeley, 510-549-3486 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Manpuku 2977 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-2536 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Namaste Madras Cuisine 2447 Sacramento St., Berkeley, 510-849-0118 (Indian/Vegetarian) $

Norikonoko 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1274 (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

Paragon Bar & Cafe 41 Tunnel Rd. (Claremont Resort and Spa), Berkeley, 510-549-8510 (American/California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Rick & Ann's Restaurant and Catering 2922 Domingo Ave., Berkeley, 510-649-8538 (American/Breakfast/Brunch) $$

Smokehouse 3115 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-3640 (American) $

[illegible] 2533 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-8088 (Asian Fusion/Chinese/Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$

[illegible] Cafe 3250 [illegible] St., Berkeley, 510-985-0600 (American/Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine) $-$$

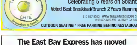
[illegible] 1311 [illegible] St., Berkeley, 510-848-3491 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $

OAKLAND-ROCKRIDGE

À Côté 5478 College Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6469 (California Cuisine/French/Italian/Organic/Sustainable/Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$$

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 5819 College Ave., Oakland, 510-601-0444 (American/Burgers/Sandwiches) $

[illegible] 5642 College Ave.


The Sunny Side Café
Celebrating 5 Years on Solano!
Voted Best Breakfast/Brunch 2 Years Running!
510 527 5383 WWW.THESUNNYSIDECAFE.COM
1499 SOLANO AVE ALBANY CA 94706
OUTDOOR SEATING • FREE PARKING BEHIND RESTAURANT

The East Bay Express has moved
to 620 3rd St., Oakland 94607

OPEN EVERY NIGHT UNTIL 1AM
$5 OFF
PURCHASE OF $20 OR MORE
AFTER 9PM SUN-THURS
BEST BURGER
4081 HOLLIS ST. EMERYVILLE 510.594.1221
WWW.RUDYSCANTFAILCAFE.COM
RUDY'S CAN'T FAIL CAFE

廖德福
KING TSIN
$5.95 Lunch Special
Extensive Selection of Fresh Dim Sum and Dumplings
Full Bar
Large Wine and Beer Selection
1699 Solano Ave • Berkeley
510-525-9898

Messob
Ethiopian Restaurant
Voted:
"BEST AFRICAN RESTAURANT"
OUTDOOR PATIO
Open Daily from 11am-10pm
510.428.1122
www.messob.org

Sexy sushi
SUSHI TAKES NO HOLIDAYS
KAMAKURA
510-521-[illegible]

THE FRUITGUYS
WELLNESS BOX
IT'S MORE THAN JUST FRUIT.
1-877-FRUIT-ME-6
WWW.FRUITGUYS.COM

RECENTLY REVIEWED

Picán

2295 Broadway, Oakland, 510-834-1000. This striking yet sultry new Uptown destination serves classic Southern cooking with an upscale California slant: lush, silky she-crab soup; fried chicken drizzled with truffle-infused organic honey; matchlessly tender barbecued ribs with peanut jalapeño coleslaw; a towering root beer float with sassafras ice cream. The handsome setting is all high ceilings, earth tones, and Old South elegance, and the friendly bar pours the Bay Area's finest selection of single barrel bourbons. $$$$

Raw Energy

2050 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-665-9464. Because Raw Energy has no inside seating and just one tiny outdoor table — the food is prepared mostly to order inside a tiny kitchen and served through a window by Naomi and his wife and son — it is virtually a takeout-only operation. Naomi makes the crust for his raw "pizza" by sprouting wheat berries for three days, then dehydrating them for another eighteen hours. He tops the crust with layers of avocado, alfalfa sprouts, julienned red cabbage, carrot ribbons, tahini, and vegan Parmesan "cheese." Smashing: It releases an explosion of textures as the flavors register: Sweet. Earthy. Creamy. Bright. Raw tomato soup is thicker, spicier, and slightly warmer than tomato juice; nut milks — made with powdered walnuts and flavored with your choice of vanilla, carob, or fruit — teeter on the verge of satiety (because they're high-protein) and desserts (because they're rich and sweet). Think a raw meal won't fill you up? It will. $

Beta Lounge

2[illegible] Domingo Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-3200. This sleek little wine bar boasts an ambient conviviality that belies its proto-IKEA design scheme. The brief and inexpensive wine list is supplemented with beer and an interesting menu of soju cocktails, as well as a dozen or so largely satisfying small plates: filled-to-bursting spring rolls with coconut peanut dipping sauce, a platter of artisan cheeses with fresh fruit and baguette, sandwiches of roasted turkey and ripe avocado on warm focaccia, hearty slabs of [illegible] pizza topped with mozzarella, roasted peppers, and eggplant. Ciao Bella gelato in three varieties is available for dessert. $$

Smokey Blues Bar-Be-Que

3415 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-350-8011. Big, meaty ribs with plenty of slow-cooked smoky flavor are the stars served at this friendly if worn-at-the-edges barbecue joint. But there's more to the place than that: plump, juicy sausage links in crackly casings; tender, spicy black-eyed peas; bright, earthy collard greens; the best red beans and rice this side of Canal Street; warm, sweet [illegible] ribboned with cornmeal. Minimal wine and beer list. $$

San Francisco Soup Company

2508 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-848-6857; 1500 Clay St., Oakland, 510-763-7687. The San Francisco Soup Company is many things it's not supposed to be. Soup — to go. And ... soup, which is hot and wet and must be consumed by careful spoonfuls while sitting or at least standing still — as fast food. But it works. The East Bay restaurants in this rapidly increasing chain serve delicious soups from an ever-shifting menu of more than eighty varieties, including many organic, low-carb and gluten-free versions, and many incorporating all-organic ingredients. San Francisco Soup Company's salads and wraps are not to be overlooked either: The wraps especially are almost big enough to comprise two meals each, and the Rainbow Wrap is a cheesesome delight with candied walnuts, organic greens, and roasted beets. $

Cioccolata Di Vino

1844 Shattuck Ave., Suite C, Berkeley, 510-848-1952. This Northside wine bar, antipasti joint, and sweets emporium succeeds on all levels: The wine list is thoughtful and eclectic, the small plates are creative and delectable, and the desserts, for the most part, are out of this world. Try the goat cheese tartlet, the grilled eggplant rolls with prosciutto and mozzarella, the ricotta-orange zest pie, and anything involving chocolate, especially the polenta cake and the chocolate chip cookies. Elegant yet friendly old-world atmosphere. $$

Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $

[illegible] 5484 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-5484 (Breakfast/Brunch/California Cuisine, French) $$$-$$$$

Flavors of India [illegible] College Ave., [illegible] 510-[illegible] (Indian/Pakistani) $$

[illegible] 6048 College Ave., [illegible] 510-[illegible] (Southeast Asian) $$

Oliveto 5655 College Ave., Oakland, 510-547-5356 (Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$

[illegible] 5422 College Ave., [illegible] 510-[illegible] (Italian/Pizza) $-$$

OAKLAND-TEMESCAL

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Sunday Temescal Farmers' Market, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

[illegible] 5004 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] ([illegible]) $$$

[illegible] 3712 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Korean) $$

Koryo Wooden Charcoal Barbecue 4390 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6007 (Korean) $$

[illegible] Cafe 4012 Broadway, Oakland, 510-547-[illegible] (American/Breakfast, Brunch) $

Nomad Cafe 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-595-5344 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $

Pyung Chang Tofu House 4701 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-658-9040 (Korean/Southeast Asian) $$

S&S [illegible] 4923 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Seafood/Southern/Soul Food) $

[illegible] Barbeque House 2900 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Korean) $-$$

[illegible] Tang ⊙ 3801 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-597-9588 (Korean) $

[illegible] Pie & Poppy's Southeast Southern Cuisine 5319 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 53rd St.), Oakland, 510-547-8743 (Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

OAKLAND-PIEDMONT, GRAND LAKE & EAST

Andy and Cindy's Thai Cuisine Saturday Grand Lake Farmers' Market, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Organic/Sustainable/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers 4162 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-7180 (American, Burgers/Sandwiches) $

Bay Wolf Restaurant 3853 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-655-6004 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

César Piedmont 4039 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-883-0222 (Spanish/Tapas/Small Plates) $$

Dopo 4293 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3676 (Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Holy Land 677 Rand Ave., Oakland, 510-272-0535 (Kosher/Israeli/Middle Eastern) $

Jong Ga House 372 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-7658 (Korean) $$

LoCoco's Restaurant 4270 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, 510-652-6222 (Italian/Pizza) $$

Mezze 3407 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-663-2500 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$-$$$$

[illegible] Sushi 3290 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-6854 (Japanese/Sushi) $$

Spettro 3355 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-451-1738 (California Cuisine/Pizza) $$

Zza's Trattoria 552 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-839-9124 (Italian/Pizza) $$

OAKLAND-DOWNTOWN & JACK LONDON SQ.

B Oakland 499 9th St., Oakland, 510-251-8110 (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$

Chef Edwards' Bar-B-Que 1515 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, 510-834-9516 (Barbecue/Southern/Soul Food) $-$$

Chef Lau's 301 8th St., Oakland, 510-835-3288 (Chinese, Seafood) $

Le Cheval 1007 Clay St., Oakland, 510-763-8495 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $$-$$$

La Furia Chalaca 310 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4206 (Peruvian/South American) $$

Golden Lotus 1301 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-893-0383 (Chinese/Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese/Vegetarian/Vegan/Vietnamese) $

Gum Kuo 388 9th St. (Pacific Renaissance Plaza), Oakland, 510-268-1288 (Chinese) $

House of Chicken & Waffles 444 Embarcadero West, Oakland, 510-836-4446 (American/Southern/Soul Food) $

[illegible] 388 10th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible]-3238 (Vietnamese) $$

[illegible] 800 Broadway, Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $$

[illegible] Restaurant and Cabaret 901 Washington St., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Cajun/Creole/Seafood/Southern/Soul Food) $$

Legendary Palace 708 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-663-9188 (Chinese) $-$$

Shan Dong 328 10th St., Oakland, 510-839-2299 (Chinese) $-$$

Shanghai Restaurant 930 Webster St., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $-$$

[illegible] 381 8th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $

Tay Ho 344B 12th St., Oakland, 510-836-6388 (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $

Yoshi's 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland, 510-238-9200 (Japanese/Sushi) $$$

Yung Kee Restaurant 888 Webster St., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $

ALAMEDA

[illegible] 1514 Webster St., Alameda, 510-523-2220 (Italian) $$$

Angel Fish 683 [illegible] St., Suite C-2, Alameda, 510-748-0460 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

[illegible] 2600 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Greek/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$

[illegible] 2300 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-521-5662 (California Cuisine) $$$

[illegible] 1318 Encinal Ave., Alameda, 510-769-9933 (Diner) $

[illegible] 2318 Encinal Ave., Alameda, 510-521-1800 (Vietnamese) $-$$

[illegible] 1300 Park St., Alameda, 510-[illegible] (Cuban) $$

Speisekammer 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-522-1300 (German/Austrian) $$

Tsuru Sushi 1426 Park St., Alameda, 510-[illegible] (Japanese/Sushi) $$

OAKLAND-EAST

[illegible] 4606 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Mexican) $-$$

Full House Cafe 3701 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (American/Diner) $

El Huarache Azteca 3842 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-533-2395 (Mexican) $

El Ojo de Agua 3132 E. 12th St., Oakland, (Mexican) $

Old Weang Ping Village 6911 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-430-8771 (Southeast Asian/Thai/Burmese) $$

Otaez Mexicatessen 3872 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-536-0909 (Mexican) $-$$

Pho Ao Sen [illegible] International Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Southeast Asian/Vietnamese) $

[illegible] Cafe 3000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-261-1404 (Southern/Soul Food) $$

Tacos El Sol Corner of International Blvd and High St., Oakland, no phone (Mexican) $

Taqueria San Jose 3433 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-533-5748 (Mexican) $

La [illegible] [illegible] International Blvd., Oakland, 510-[illegible] (Mexican) $

HAYWARD & SAN LEANDRO

A Street Cafe [illegible] A St., Hayward, 510-582-2558 (Bistro) $$$

[illegible] Italian Cuisine [illegible] Hayward, 510-[illegible] (Italian) $-$$

Buffalo Bill's Brewery 1082 B St., Hayward, 510-886-9823 (Pubfood/Brewpub) $

Hunan Taipei 25036 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, 510-785-7133 (Chinese) $$

[illegible] Restaurant and Pies 2837 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley, 510-886-0622 (Diner) $

[illegible] [illegible] Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, 510-670-0722 (Filipino/Southeast Asian) $-$$

[illegible] [illegible] Hayward, 510-[illegible] (California Cuisine/Seafood) $$$

Sam's Super Burger [illegible] Hesperian Blvd., San Leandro, 510-278-6829 (American/Diner) $

[illegible] 1427 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-352-3748 (Japanese/Sushi) $-$$

Val's Burgers 2115 Kelly St., Hayward, 510-888-7237 (American/Diner) $

FREMONT, NEWARK & UNION CITY

[illegible] 46857 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont, 510-[illegible] (Chinese) $$-$$$

[illegible] [illegible] Fremont Blvd., Fremont, 510-[illegible] (Bakery/Indian/Pakistani) $

[illegible] Grill 39158 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont, 510-797-[illegible] (Chinese/Indian/Pakistani) $-$$

[illegible] 3200 Mowry Ave., Fremont, 510-792-2000 (California Cuisine/Italian) $$$

[illegible] 5988 New Park Mall Rd., Newark, 510-794-8400 (Indian/Pakistani/Vegetarian/Vegan) $

Woodlands 39213 Cedar Blvd., Newark, 510-494-8727 (Indian/Pakistani) $

PLEASANT HILL, CONCORD & EAST

[illegible] [illegible] Clayton Rd., Concord, 925-[illegible] (Peruvian/South American) $-$$

[illegible] Kabob [illegible] Monument Blvd., Concord, 925-[illegible] (Afghan/Persian) $

Mack's Gyros and Hot Dogs 240 Golf Club Rd., Pleasant Hill, 925-687-8454 (Greek/Turkish) $

[illegible] [illegible] Pleasant Hill, 925-288-8222 (French/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Luna Ristorante 2100 Willow Pass Rd., Concord, 925-[illegible] (Italian) $$-$$$

[illegible] Old House 3100 E. 18th St., Antioch, 925-757-0988 ([illegible]) $-$$

[illegible] Barbecue 2120 Mount Diablo St., Concord, 925-[illegible] (Mexican/Organic/Sustainable) $$

www.rainbow.coop
RAINBOW GROCERY
FREE!
Rainbow Grocery presents...
SERGEY ANISIMOV
(raw desserts chef at Cafe Gratitude)
RAW DESSERTS DEMO.
11AM – 1PM
Saturday May 23rd
@ Chez Spencer
82 14th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
bet. Folsom & Treat (around the corner from Rainbow)
OPEN 9-9 daily
A WORKER OWNED COOPERATIVE
1745 FOLSOM STREET SAN FRANCISCO • CA 94103 415.863.0620

THE TERRACE ROOM
AT THE LAKE MERRITT HOTEL
NOW SERVING
LUNCH, BRUNCH & DINNER
LUNCH 11AM – 2PM
WEEKEND BRUNCH 9AM – 2PM
DINNER 5PM – 8PM
Happy Hour!! 4pm – 6pm
$5.00
Toward the purchase of $25 or more
Reservations (510)903-3771
1800 Madison Street
Oakland CA 94612

yogurt harmony
ONE FREE TOPPING
W/ PURCHASE OF ANY SIZE FROZEN YOGURT

R&C

WALNUT CREEK

Bobby Charles Grill & Steamiolne 1415 [illegible] Ave., Walnut Creek, 925-210-0772. (Eastern European) $$

Bing Crosby's 1342 Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek, 925-939-2464. (American/Steak House) $$$$

Marica 1535 Locust St., Walnut Creek, 925-932-4555. (California/Market) $$

Lark Creek Walnut Creek 1360 Locust St., Walnut Creek, 925-256-1234. (American/California, Local Organic) $$-$$$

Prima 1522 N Main St., Walnut Creek, 925-935-7780. (Italian/Organic) $$$-$$$$

Tk's Tea House 1800 Mount Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek, 925-283-8988. (Chinese) $$-$$$

Va de Vi Bistro & Wine Bar 1511 Mount Diablo Blvd., Walnut Creek, 925-979-0100. (Asian Fusion/California Cuisine/Organic/Tapas/Small Plates/Wine Bar) $$-$$$

Vic Stewart's 850 South Broadway, Walnut Creek, 925-943-5666. (Steak House) $$$-$$$$

Walnut Creek Yacht Club 1555 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek, 925-944-3474. (California Cuisine/Organic/Seafood) $$-$$$

LAMORINDA

Market Cafe 2 Theatre Sq., Suite 105, Orinda, 925-254-5200. (Greek/Turkish/Middle Eastern) $

Bo's Barbecue 3422 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-7133. (Barbecue/Organic/Sustainable) $-$$

Casa Market 21 Bryant Way, Orinda, 925-254-2981. (American/Steak House) $$-$$$

Hoom 53 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, 925-962-2185. (California/Organic) $$

El Jarro Mexican Cafe 3531 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-283-0639. (Mexican) $-$$

La Fondue (Rioland) 150 Lafayette Circle, Suite 101, Lafayette, 925-284-1282. (Italian) $$-$$$

Marica 3565 Mount Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-299-8700. (California Cuisine/Italian/Organic/Sustainable) $$$

Moraga Ranch Cafe 1012 School St., Moraga, 925-376-5127. (American) $-$$

TRI-VALLEY

Kitchen Grill 1061-A Market Pl., San Ramon, 925-830-3144. (Hawaiian) $

Charles Indian Restaurant 490 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville, 925-362-4938. (Indian/Pakistani) $$

McNamara's Steak & Chop House 7400 San Ramon Rd., Dublin, 925-833-0995. (American/Seafood/Steak House) $$$

The Patio 990 Moraga Rd., Lafayette, 925-299-0123. (South American/Tapas) $$

Roderick's BBQ and Intercafe 5801 Gibraltar Dr., Pleasanton, 925-251-0010. (Barbecue/Seafood/Soul food) $$

Marica 3258 Crow Canyon Pl. #C, San Ramon, 925-[illegible]. (Japanese) $$-$$$

Sergio's Trattoria 500 Bollinger Canyon Way (in the Crow Canyon Mall), San Ramon, 925-964-9658. (Italian) $$-$$$

Taqueria El Balazo 250 Market Pl., San Ramon, 925-3[illegible]. (Mexican) $

Wente Vineyards Restaurant 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925-456-2450. (California Cuisine/Organic/Sustainable) $$$$

Marica 3496 Richmond Pointe Circle, Danville, 925-838-1616. (Japanese/Sushi) $$-$$$

FOOD & WINE

CULINARY & WINE

Art in the Vineyard 2009 Music by Vintage Tonality, wine samplings, and exhibitions by 42 multimedia artists. Sun., May 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $15. Wente Vineyards Estate Winery Tasting Room, 5565 Tesla Rd., Livermore. 925-456-2305. WenteVineyards.com.

Charles Chocolates Factory Tour Opportunity to watch chocolatiers in production, followed by a Q&A. Wednesdays, Saturdays, 11:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m., free. Charles Chocolates Factory Store and Chocolate Bar, 6529 Hollis St., Emeryville. 510-652-4412. CharlesChocolates.com.

Scharffen Berger Chocolate Maker Factory Store Half-hour tours provide samplings and a history of bittersweet. Call 510-981-4066 to make reservations. Daily, free. Scharffen Berger, 914 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. ScharffenBerger.com.

On & On Oyster Night Wine sampling, oyster samplings and a Cajun jambalaya buffet. Sun., May 24, 3-8 p.m., $40 buy-in for ships, wine, buffet, and lady luck. $12 for optional oyster shucking class. Periscope Cellars & Gallery, 1410 65th St. (Ste. B), Emeryville. 510-655-7807. PeriscopeCellars.com.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Bayfair Center Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Bayfair Center, 15555 E. 14th St., San Leandro. 510-357-6000. ShopBayfair.com.

Brentwood Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon. First St., between Oak & Chestnut Sts., Brentwood.

Clayton Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon. Diablo St., between Main & Center Sts., Clayton.

Concord Farmers' Market Thursdays, 4-8 p.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Todos Santos Plaza, Willow Pass Rd. and Grant St., Concord. 925-431-3484.

Danville Certified Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Railroad St. at Prospect St., Danville.

Farm Fresh Market Community Produce Stand Wednesdays, 3-6:30 p.m. 510-848-1704. EcologyCenter.org. Frances Albrier Community Center, San Pablo Park, 2800 Park St. (at Oregon St.), Berkeley. 510-981-5050. CityofBerkeley.info/recreation/franceslbrier.

Irvington Farmers' Market Sundays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Bay St. at Fremont Blvd., Fremont.

Kaiser Permanente Antioch Farmers' Market Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Antioch, 4501 Sand Creek Rd., Antioch.

Kaiser Permanente Fremont Farmers' Market Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Fremont, 39400 Paseo Padre Pkwy., Fremont.

Kaiser Permanente Hayward Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Hayward, 27400 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward.

Kaiser Permanente Martinez Farmers' Market Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Permanente Martinez Medical Market, 200 Muir Rd., Martinez.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Oakland, 3801 Howe St., Oakland.

Kaiser Permanente Union City Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Medical Center, Union City, 3555 Whipple Rd., Union City.

Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Kaiser Walnut Creek, 1425 South Main St., Walnut Creek.

Kensington Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ACE Hardware Parking Lot, 303 Arlington Ave., Berkeley.

Lake Merritt Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Merritt (Laurel Market Charter), 510-981-1250.

Livermore Thursday Farmers' Market Thursdays, 4-8 p.m. Carnegie Park, 2nd & 10th, Livermore.

Martinez Certified Farmers' Market Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Main St., Martinez, 600 Main St., Martinez. CCFM.org.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave., at Rose St., Berkeley.

Pacific Fruits Farmers' Market Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Court St., Martinez, between Main & Escobar Sts., Martinez.

Pinole Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Fernandez Ave. at Park St., Pinole.

Pittsburg Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Railroad Ave., between 3rd & 5th Sts., Pittsburg.

Pleasanton Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Pleasanton Farmers' Market, West Angela St. (at First St.), Pleasanton.

Point Richmond Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. Park Pl., (at Washington Ave.), Richmond.

San Leandro Downtown Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 4-8 p.m. Parrott St., between E. 14th St. & Washington Ave., San Leandro.

San Lorenzo Farmers' Market Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Hesperian Blvd. at Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo.

Saturday Berkeley Produce Market Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. MLK Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (between Allston and Center Sts.), Berkeley. 510-981-0700.

Temescal Farmers' Market Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. DMV Parking Lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

Tuesday Berkeley Farmers' Market Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m. 510-548-3333. EcologyCenter.org. Derby St. at Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley.

Union City Farmers' Market Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Old Alvarado/Cesar Chavez Park, Smith & Watkins Sts., Union City. ●

PICK

Strawberry Tasting

Sweet! It's that time of year again when California strawberries turn their freckled flesh sunward, heralding summer. On Tuesday, May 26, a **strawberry tasting** at the **Berkeley Farmers' Market** (Derby Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way) features a long table stacked with free samples from all the strawberry growers who sell their wares at the market. 2 p.m.-7 p.m., free. EcologyCenter.org. — *Anneli Rufus*

Recommended by Zagat Guide & [illegible]
Best Indian Restaurant
AJANTA
1888 Solano Ave. Berkeley • 526-4373
Open Daily 11:30am-2:30pm 5:30pm-9:30pm
please visit our website at
www.ajantarestaurant.com

Now open til 11 p.m. weeknights
SONOMA
coffee cafe
What we offer:
FREE WiFi "Personality" Comfy Chairs, Great Coffee and Movies
Mon-Fri: 7a-11p Sat & Sun. 9a-6p
Located at 2131 Durant Ave. in Berkeley, at corner of Fulton
510 665-1440

GRAND OPENING
Bar Andalucia
@ La Taza de Cafe
Classic Spanish Tapas Bar
in the Andalucian tradition
$2 tap beers on Tuesday
Imported and Domestic Beers on Tap
$2 bottled beers during A's games
Happy Hour
5pm-7:30pm (Tuesday-Friday)
$3 all tapas, wines, sangria, cocktails
Mention this ad for 10% off your total bill!
3909 Grand Ave Oakland CA 94610
(510) 658-2373 • LaTazaDeCafe.com

SAVE MONEY AND GO GREEN!
Supply Your Restaurant, Coffee Shop, Church, School, Wedding or Event with Us!
Compostable Clear Cups
And All Other Compostable Paper Products
COSTA VERDE
PAPER SUPPLY
FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS

YOU LOOK HUNGRY!
Oakland Grill
DON'T WORRY YOU'RE NOT VERY FAR FROM AN AMAZING BREAKFAST, LUNCH OR BRUNCH AT OAKLAND GRILL.
BRUNCH
SAT & SUN
CHAMPAGNE
#95
301 FRANKLIN ST OAKLAND 510.835.1176
"OAKLAND GRILL NAMED TOP 100 RESTAURANT IN THE U.S."

AFFORDABLE FRENCH CUISINE
Rendez-Vous
CAFE-BISTRO
ADMIT ONE
HEY MOVIE BUFFS!
BRING YOUR MOVIE TICKET AND GET A
FREE DESSERT
WITH ANY ENTREE
LUNCH • DINNER
1111 SOLANO AVE ALBANY 510 527 8111
WWW.RENDEZVOUSCAFEBISTRO.COM

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND BRUNCH AT LAKESHORE CAFE
LAKESHORE CAFE
-Breakfast -Gourmet Sandwiches & Salads
-Great Atmosphere -Beautiful Patio Dining
-Brunch Saturday & Sunday -Catering
3257 LAKESHORE
OAKLAND 510.832.4374
WWW.LAKESHORECAFE.NET
Nominated for Best Brunch In the East Bay by KRON 4

LA NOTE
RESTAURANT
RESTAURANT
PROVENCAL
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner
2377 Shattuck Ave
Berkeley • 510.843.1535
www.lanoterestaurant.com

MOVIES

LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBOT

Terminator Salvation and *The Girlfriend Experience* can't save themselves and *Summer Hours* doesn't need to

By Kelly Vance

Terminator Salvation isn't only unbelievable. It's not even really that gloomy. The robots are cool though.

Akira Kurosawa once described his *Seven Samurai* as being as rich as a battered steak topped with broiled eels. By that standard *Terminator Salvation* is about as nourishing as a piece of genetically modified parsley on a Trader Joe's flaxseed tortilla chip. But it has one or two small saving graces.

The problem is familiar. In 2018, Los Angeles is home to the Human Resistance movement, while Northern California belongs to the Skynet machines trying to annihilate the human race and take over the world. We follow two parallel character arcs: time-traveling designated savior of the human race John Connor (Christian Bale) and his never-ending battle against the machines, and the plight of one Marcus Wright (Sam Worthington), a Resistance soldier who may or may not be a robot disguised as human. Marcus is plagued by bad memories of prison and a puzzling doctor (Helena Bonham Carter). Connor, as usual, is plagued only by robots. Evil giant whatzits are rounding up humans and storing them in pens in downtown San Francisco, searching for Connor's father, the teenage Kyle Reese (Anton Yelchin). The big revelation in this fourth installment (not counting the TV series) is that the machines have an "Off" switch. Now they tell us.

Director McG (*Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*) owes a major debt to George Miller and Stanley Kubrick, the former for numerous *Mad Max* lifts, the latter for the battle scenes. Lots of boom-boom and bang-bang, but the procedural aspect is negligible. Where's the electricity coming from? And who is manufacturing all that ammo they're wasting? Like most sci-fi, it isn't realistic, but the air of hopeless doom that pervaded earlier episodes has by now been worn down to a dull pyrotechnic display of firefights. The robot gizmos, however, are pretty cool.

Bale is overshadowed a bit by Worthington's renegade Mr. Goodbot, and they're both upstaged by Moon Bloodgood's sexy pilot, one of the requisite female freedom fighters. *Terminator Salvation* may be slightly better than anticipated, but it doesn't amount to a hill of screws. Late in the movie, someone asks rhetorically: "What is it that makes us human?" Could it be the willingness to sit through the same story over and over again and never reach a conclusion?

Terminator Salvation

Directed by McG

With Christian Bale

Opens Thursday

Summer Hours

Written and directed by Olivier Assayas. With Juliette Binoche. Opens Friday

The Girlfriend Experience

Directed by Steven Soderbergh. With Sasha Grey. Opens Friday.

Years earlier in a galaxy far, far away, there lived an old lady named Hélène in a splendid, art-filled home in the French countryside. The widowed Hélène (played by Edith Scob) is the surviving niece of a famous painter, Paul Berthier, whose works and collections, from Art Nouveau to Art Deco, litter the rambling house, and as *Summer Hours* (*L'heure d'été*) opens she is entertaining her grown children and their families with a day playing and lunching at the green, wooded, hillside estate.

Hélène's three offspring are a study in contrasts. Frédéric (Charles Berling) is a Parisian university economics professor with a sentimental streak. His sister Adrienne (Juliette Binoche), a fashion designer in New York, strives hard to be youthfully capricious despite her encroaching middle age. The third sibling, Jérémie (Jérémie Renier), lives with his wife and kids in Shanghai, where he is in the athletic shoe business. Not long after the lovely summer afternoon, word comes that mother Hélène has died, and the siblings are faced with a decision: what to do with the house full of artwork, the cultural "residue" of the now-dispersed family.

Jérémie and Adrienne want to sell the art and cash out. Frédéric sees the art as Paul Berthier's heritage, and wants to preserve the house and its treasures as a sort of museum where the family could get together and celebrate — in other words, he's a hopeless dreamer as well as an economist. But even he sees that dream is hopeless. Hélène's true legacy, aside from the artworks, is that she was her renowned uncle Paul's inamorata, his "last great passion." The person who knew Hélène best is the old family retainer, Éloïse (Isabelle Sadoyan), a down-to-earth villager who was fond of putting flowers in a rare Bracquemonde vase. This amuses the art dealers and experts from the Musée d'Orsay who are soon going through the house, cataloging the Majorelle furniture, Odilon Redon panels, and so forth. It's the end of an era.

The writer-director, Olivier Assayas, is trying to tell us something about mercantilism, tradition, and memory. In addition to spinning a short story about a dissolving family, *Summer Hours* has the feel, if not the look, of an old man's film (Assayas is 54 years old): a meditation on the passing of time and how the most important things in a person's life fade away and become an anecdote, or less.

In his press notes Assayas (*Boarding Gate*, *Clean*, *Irma Vep*) claims that it's a tribute to Taiwanese filmmaker Hou Hsiao-hsien. It does have a bit of Hou's cold-mountain wistfulness, but the essence of *Summer Hours* is in its Jean Renoir-ish final scene, in which Frédéric's daughter invites a bunch of her young friends to the estate for one last summer party before it's sold. Assayas can't help tagging the party with a song by the 1960s psychedelic folk group the Incredible String Band, "Little Cloud" — a happy, mindless ditty about floating free in the universe. Nice touch.

Steven Soderbergh deserves an award for sticking to his principles, no matter how noncommercial they may be. His last box-office dud was *Che*, the dispiriting two-part bio of revolutionary Che Guevara. That reward project grossed just slightly over $1.7 million in the US box office, or roughly what *Next Day Air* made in its first afternoon. Undaunted, Soderbergh is back with *The Girlfriend Experience*, the putative story of an executive-grade Manhattan escort played by porno star Sasha Grey.

Didn't anyone tell Soderbergh that if you're going to make a movie about a prostitute, 1) you're going to have to show some skin, or failing that, 2) she's going to have to fall in love with a sympathetic rich guy? Heedless, Soderbergh ignores all that and veers toward Jean-Luc Godard's chilly study of whores and urban redevelopment, *Two or Three Things I Know About Her*, in detailing the life and times of Chelsea (Grey), a lithe brunette *poule de luxe* who charges $10,000 per session while her gym trainer boyfriend (Chris Santos) rents himself out to Las Vegas junketeers.

Her clients are hideous and Chelsea is no charmer — one reviewer cites her flat voice, uneducated manner, and lack of affect — but she gets to the heart of the economic meltdown: People were overpaying for just about everything. It's a critique of capitalism by the *Ocean's* mates, no less. If only Grey weren't such a robot as the commodified Chelsea. But what did we expect from the star of *Anal Acrobats 3* and *Cum Buckets 8*? ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, note the abbreviations at the end of each listing, then consult the theater guide at the bottom of this page. Capsule reviews are written by Andrew [illegible] (A.G.), Cole Haddon (C.H.), J.R. Jones (J.J.), and Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to editor@eastbayexpress.com

OPENING

Dance Flick From brothers [illegible] Wayans, this dance movie spoof (think *Epic Movie*, *Scary Movie*, et al.) centers on the story of street dancer Thomas Uncles (Damon Wayans Jr.), who meets with the beautiful Megan White (Shoshana Bush) in favor of winning a huge dance battle. BC, BP, CWC, CDPH, CH, CLC, CHY, CR, RA, WHS

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian How to drain all the wonder out of a setting: Send Ben Stiller and an army of CGI critters through a nowhere street of slapstick "educational" kiddie-show hijinks, this time with perennial night watchman Stiller in tandem with Amelia Earhart (Amy Adams). A clear case of diminished returns, co-starring a galaxy of once-interesting movie actors including Owen Wilson, Steve Coogan, Hank Azaria [illegible], Christopher Guest, and inevitable Robin Williams as Teddy Roosevelt. The saving [illegible] it's been [illegible]. [illegible] Ben Garant and Thomas Lennon wrote the screenplay. Directed by Shawn Levy (105 min.) (K.V.) BB, BC, BP, CWC, CB, CDPH, CH, CLC, CHY, CR, SH, CGC, CBC, RA, JL, UAB, WWS

O' Horten Norwegian writer/director Bent Hamer (*Factotum*) delivers a bittersweet, funny story, the evening 67-year-old train engineer Odd Horten (Baard Owe) retires — it might [illegible] change his life forever (90 min.). S

Outrage This documentary from Kirby Dick (*Twist of Faith*, *This Film Is Not Yet Rated*) exposes closeted politicians and policymakers with disproportionately anti-LGBT voting records (90 min.). S

Summer Hours When their mother dies, her self-involved grown children [illegible] Binoche, Charles Berling, and Jérémie Renier — have to decide what to do with her grand country house, a treasure trove of art [illegible] her life with a [illegible] painter [illegible]. That's the situation, but writer-director Olivier Assayas (*Irma Vep*, *Boarding Gate*) delves beneath the surface to explore the essential melancholy of a well-spent life — time passes and everything eventually fades from view. Kudos to the three principals, although the real stars of the character study may be the Art Nouveau and Art Deco pieces, which go from being part of a living household to just another display in the Musée d'Orsay (103 min.) (K.V.) AL

Terminator Salvation Fourth installment (not counting the TV series) of the perplexingly popular humans-vs.-machines yarn pits time-traveling savior of humanity John Connor (Christian Bale) against legions of evil giant robots intent on stomping out humankind, with dubious help from a renegade bot disguised as a Resistance fighter (Sam Worthington). [illegible] Director McG (*Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*) cribs liberally from *Mad Max* and Stanley Kubrick.

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

Theater Guide

This guide explains the abbreviations at the end of each capsule. **AL** = Albany; **ATC** = Alameda Theater & Cineplex; **BB** = Brenden Concord; **BK** = Blackhawk; **BP** = Brenden Pittsburg; **BS** = Bay Street; **CA** = California; **CAPH** = Century Pleasant Hill; **CB** = Century Bayfair; **CCC** = Contra Costa Cinemas; **CDPK** = Century Pleasant Hill; **CE** = Century Hilltop; **CHY** = Century Hayward; **CH** = [illegible]; **CRC** = Crow Canyon; **CSC** = [illegible] Space and Science; **CUC** = Century Union City; **CWC** = Century Walnut Creek; **DV** = Dublin Valley; **EC** = El Cerrito Speakeasy; **GL** = Grand Lake; **JL** = Jack London; **LP** = La Peña; **NB** = [illegible]; **SA** = [illegible]; **TP** = [illegible]; **PM** = Piedmont; **RA** = Regal Antioch; **RCE** = Regal Cinemas Emeryville; **RH** = Regal Hacienda; **RT** = Rheem Theatre; **S** = [illegible]; **UAB** = UA Berkeley; **UAEB** = UA Emery Bay; **V** = Vine; **WWS** = West Wind Solano but the other blues are pretty good. [illegible] (115 min.) [illegible]

ONGOING

17 Again [illegible] story of a 37-year-old [illegible] who wakes up one day in his [illegible] body (played by teen idol Zac Efron) and goes back to high school [illegible] (95 min.) [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Egoyan's stock company [illegible] Writer-director Egoyan (Where the Truth Lies, The Sweet Hereafter) [illegible] Ontario [illegible] With Scott Speedman, Rosemary [illegible] (100 min.) [illegible]

Adventureland An '80s nostalgia movie [illegible] college grad [illegible] takes a summer job at the [illegible] amusement park [illegible] Pittsburgh [illegible] John Hughes [illegible] Writer-director Greg Mottola's [illegible] (107 min.) [illegible]

Angels & Demons Who is killing off the College of Cardinals? Tom Hanks, reprising his role from The Da Vinci Code as professor/sleuth Robert Langdon, [illegible] Vatican [illegible] St. Peter's [illegible] by Akiva Goldsman [illegible] Starring Ewan McGregor, Ayelet Zurer, Stellan Skarsgård, Nikolaj Lie Kaas [illegible] (138 min.) [illegible]

The Class The power of [illegible] Laurent Cantet's portrait of a Parisian junior high school teacher [illegible] François Bégaudeau [illegible] (128 min.) [illegible]

Dragonball Evolution [illegible] (Justin Chatwin) [illegible] Dragonball Evolution [illegible] (James Marsters) [illegible] (Chow Yun-Fat [illegible]) [illegible] (85 min.) [illegible]

Earth The first [illegible] from Disney's new nature division also has an encyclopedic reach and spectacular footage [illegible] The loose narrative [illegible] polar bears [illegible] elephants, and a humpbacked whale and the calf [illegible] Planet Earth [illegible] Arctic Tale (2007) [illegible] and Mark Linfield [illegible] Narrated [illegible] (93 min.) [illegible]

Every Little Step [illegible] A Chorus Line [illegible] the 2006 Broadway revival [illegible] James D. Stern and Adam Del Deo [illegible] (96 min.) [illegible]

Forces of Nature [illegible] volcanoes, tornadoes, and hurricanes [illegible] National Geographic's [illegible] IMAX [illegible] offering. [illegible]

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past [illegible] Matthew McConaughey in this lively romantic comedy. A photographer [illegible] Michael Douglas [illegible] A Christmas Carol [illegible] Jennifer Garner [illegible] Robert Forster and Anne Archer [illegible] (100 min.) [illegible]

The Girlfriend Experience Chelsea, the high-priced [illegible] in Steven Soderbergh's [illegible] (played by adult film actress Sasha Grey) [illegible] Manhattan [illegible] (77 min.) [illegible]

Goodbye Solo This quiet, closely observed [illegible] drama details the relationship between a lonely [illegible] (played by former [illegible] Red West) and Solo, the West African immigrant [illegible] Souleymane Sy Savané [illegible] Winston-Salem [illegible] Ramin Bahrani [illegible] (91 min.) [illegible]

Hannah Montana: The Movie [illegible] Billy Ray Cyrus [illegible] Miley Cyrus [illegible] Crowley Corners, Tennessee [illegible] (102 min.) [illegible]

The Human Body Ever [illegible] how your body [illegible] (50 min.) [illegible]

I Love You, Man [illegible] I Love You, Man [illegible] Paul Rudd plays a [illegible] LA [illegible] Jason Segel [illegible] Judd Apatow production [illegible]

FROM THE WAYANS BROTHERS
THE FUNNIEST DANCE MOVIE OF ALL TIME
"THE WAYANS BROTHERS SCORE AGAIN!"
"'DANCE FLICK' HAS ALL THE MOVES!"
CW/CBS-TV
MARK S. ALLEN
I ♥ WHITE CHICKS
DANCE FLiCK
PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND MTV FILMS PRESENT
PG-13
MTV FILMS
TheDanceFlick.com

STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 22
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES

"SCINTILLATING!
IT STRONGLY RECALLS THE AWARD FILMS OF THE [illegible]"
Scott Foundas, LA WEEKLY
"SASHA GREY'S PERFORMANCE IS TOTALLY CAPTIVATING
and Soderbergh makes her prettiness devastating."
Ross McCammon, ESQUIRE
SASHA GREY
THE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE©
SEE IT WITH SOMEONE YOU [illegible]
STARTS FRIDAY MAY 22
Piedmont Shattuck
magnolia

DIEGO LUNA GAEL GARCÍA BERNAL
"IRRESISTIBLE! HILARIOUS AND SATIRICAL! A DELIGHT!"
-David Ansen, NEWSWEEK
Rudo y Cursi
From the creators of Y Tu Mamá También
A new comedy by CARLOS CUARÓN
Produced by
ALFONSO CUARÓN ALEJANDRO GONZÁLEZ IÑÁRRITU
GUILLERMO DEL TORO
NOW PLAYING!
VIEW TRAILER AT WWW.RUDOYCURSIMOVIE.COM

JENNIFER ANISTON STEVE ZAHN
"A GEM. A ROMANTIC COMEDY FOR OUR TIME."
"★★★★! JENNIFER ANISTON GIVES THE BEST PERFORMANCE OF HER CAREER."
A TOUCHING COMEDY
MANAGEMENT
MANAGEMENTFILM.COM
NOW PLAYING!
CINEARTS@PLEASANT HILL
2341 Monument Blvd
Pleasant Hill (925) 687-1100

M&T

[illegible]

Il Divo Writer-director Paolo Sorrentino's labyrinthine [illegible] tries to uncover the real man beneath the grey immobility of Giulio Andreotti, Italy's "Black Pope," "Sphinx," "Hunchback," and Premier for Life — the most powerful and mysterious man in the country. Actor Toni Servillo plays [illegible] as a [illegible] man, scurrying through [illegible] the [illegible] the church, and the state [illegible] and [illegible] Filmmaker Sorrentino takes full advantage of the settings for Godfather-style [illegible] Andreotti's [illegible] on corruption and [illegible] charges. Worth it [illegible] for fans of history and [illegible] (aren't they more or less the same?) (110 min.) [illegible]

Is Anybody There? Why did [illegible] Michael Caine and [illegible] young [illegible] Bill Milner (Son of Rainbow) go toe-to-toe in a [illegible] about a [illegible] former magician and the sensitive but ghost-obsessed boy he [illegible] home in the middle of England. Caine was [illegible] but it's [illegible] Peter Harness's screenplay [illegible] John Crowley, who's direct[illegible] The Boy A. Co-starring Anne-Marie Duff and Morrissey as Mum and Dad (94 min.) (K.V.) CAPH, PCE

Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna Dev (Shahrukh Khan) and Maya (Rani Mukherjee) fall in love, but both are married to other people. When their long-repressed feelings become known [illegible] everyone involved is changed forever. Written and directed by Karan Johar. In Hindi with English subtitles. (M.J.) NR

Lemon Tree The striking Palestinian actress Hiam Abbass (The Visitor) stars in this ironic 2008 melodrama, as a widow whose [illegible] lemon grove makes global headlines. When the Israeli minister of defense builds a house next door, just across the Green Line that separates the West Bank from Israel, [illegible] as a security threat. She finds an ally (and unlikely suitor) in the media-savvy lawyer (Ali Suliman of Paradise Now) who takes her protest to the Israeli courts. Director Eran Riklis [illegible] from *The Syrian Bride* (2004), and like that film, this [illegible] reveals a [illegible] amount of empathy with women, [illegible] is undermined by her own [illegible] The [illegible] a little [illegible] In Hebrew and Arabic with subtitles (106 min.) (A.G.) PM 5

The Living Sea You've seen *Finding Nemo*; now see the real thing. It's a trip to the oceans of the world, narrated by Meryl Streep, with songs and music by Sting. CSC

Management [illegible] love story [illegible] half-bright motel [illegible] (Steve Zahn) and the traveling saleswoman he becomes infatuated with (Jennifer Aniston) [illegible] no more than the sum of their parts. [illegible] achievement for first-time writer-director Stephen Belber, who [illegible] Steve Zahn, [illegible] Woody Harrelson, old-timer Fred Ward, and sympathetic guy James Hong. Could have been a [illegible] with very little tweaking. [illegible] (93 min.) (K.V.) CAPH, CAEG

Monsters Vs. Aliens When a bride-to-be gets hit by an irradiated meteorite, she quickly grows to ginormous proportions. This gets her whisked away to a secret prison where monsters like Dr. Cockroach, the Missing Link, B.O.B., and Insectosaurus are housed [illegible] with the 50 Foot Woman, the Fly, the Creature from the Black Lagoon, the Blob, and [illegible] kind of Godzilla/Mothra hybrid. Their job, if they choose to accept it (and they do), is to battle an alien [illegible] significantly less successful at paying homage to [illegible] classics. The [illegible] primarily to the cast's [illegible] work, including Reese Witherspoon, Hugh Laurie, and Seth Rogen. [illegible] these days (95 min.) (C.H.) ATC, BS, CWC, CR, CEPH, C[illegible], CUC, BA, RH

Mysteries of Egypt National Geographic and a team of scientists reveal the architecture, legends, history, and most importantly, mysteries of ancient Egyptian civilization. CSC

Next Day Air [illegible] This [illegible] comedy [illegible] a Tarantino or Guy Ritchie knockoff, but a better comparison would be this year's underappreciated *In Bruges*. A [illegible] Philadelphia delivery man (Donald Faison) [illegible] two [illegible] thugs (Mike Epps and Wood Harris) who can't believe their luck. [illegible] through the Philly underworld when the [illegible] recipient comes looking for their missing [illegible] Director Benny Boom and [illegible] Blair Cobbs pull off the [illegible] Armstrong [illegible] 70s blaxploitation feels (90 min.) (C.H.) BC, BP, CB, CEPH, CUC, CRP, RA, RH, JL, UAB

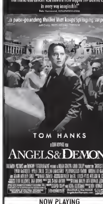
Obsessed This [illegible] entry in the psycho-bitch [illegible] stupid but not without its [illegible] pleasures. Idris Elba (The Wire) is a Knowles [illegible] to set boundaries with a [illegible] (Ali Larter) [illegible] his [illegible] and "perfect marriage" to Beyoncé [illegible] Elba and Larter have a certain [illegible] and Knowles [illegible] the chemistry of [illegible] The [illegible] unintentional laughs [illegible] dodging the [illegible] and the [illegible] — Elba's [illegible] (Jerry O'Connell) and [illegible] gay secretary (Matthew Humphreys) — [illegible] Director Steve Shill is a TV [illegible] (113 min.) (C.H.) BC, BP, CWC, CB, CEPH, CH, CUC, CRP, RA, RH, JL, UAB, UAEB

Om Shanti Om Farah Khan's film [illegible] revolves around love, [illegible] and reincarnation, and [illegible] Bollywood film. NR

Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi A middle-aged man who [illegible] (Shahrukh Khan) [illegible] through marriage to a [illegible] young woman (Priyanka Chopra). Written and directed by Aditya Chopra. In Hindi with English subtitles. NR

Race to Witch Mountain Part remake, part re-imagining, *Race to Witch Mountain* is the House Mouse's latest [illegible] resurrecting old franchises. Here, Vegas cabbie Jack Bruno (Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson) has to help two alien teens, Sara and Seth (AnnaSophia Robb and Alexander Ludwig) reach the [illegible] locale. Seems the super-powered siblings have to prevent an alien invasion of Earth, and to do so they must evade a Predator-style hunter called Siphon and [illegible] Men in Black out to capture ETs. Little feels original, [illegible] remains one of the most likeable [illegible] working today. He could do better, but he could definitely do worse. Starring Carla Gugino as an astrophysicist [illegible] (98 min.) (C.H.) [illegible]

Rudo y Cursi Gael García Bernal and Diego Luna, the *Y Tu Mamá También* boys, [illegible] back-country [illegible] plucked from a


"PERFECT SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT, Tom Hanks and director Ron Howard have topped *The DaVinci Code* in every way imaginable!"
Pete Hammond, HOLLYWOOD.COM
"...a pulse-pounding thriller that keeps springing surprises"
Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW
TOM HANKS
A RON HOWARD FILM
ANGELS & DEMONS
NOW PLAYING
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES
SORRY NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT

Beaster plantation in the big-time soccer kidded life to Mexico City. In Carlos Cuarón's winning comic [illegible] ... Writer-director Carlos Cuarón (brother of Alfonso Cuarón) also produced along with [illegible] Alejandro González Iñárritu and [illegible] ... the film with [illegible] characters. García and Luna in their [illegible] ... (103 min.) (R) [illegible]

Sin Nombre The gangbangers and desperate migrants in Cary Fukunaga's dirty, brutal road-trip drama have one thing in common: they're drawn like [illegible] to the US border. [illegible] a young [illegible] named Casper (Edgar Flores) and a [illegible] woman named Sayra (Paulina Gaitan) [illegible] ... Fukunaga, an Oakland native, gets [illegible] naturalistic performances from his cast of non-actors, [illegible] cinematographer Adriano Goldman [illegible] ... So what if Casper and Sayra's love story happens on the run? [illegible] The US-Mexican co-production stars Kristian Ferrer [illegible] Tenoch Huerta Mejía (88 min.) (R) RCE

The Soloist Worthwhile socially conscious drama pulls itself up a full two [illegible] with the [illegible] performances of Jamie Foxx, as a [illegible] ... and Robert Downey Jr. as the Los Angeles Times columnist who first profiles him, then befriends him [illegible] UK [illegible] director Joe Wright (Atonement, Pride & Prejudice) keeps the pathos [illegible] and uses the [illegible] side of Los Angeles to great effect. Nathaniel Anthony Ayers' world is [illegible] along

The monologue from LA Times reporter Steve Lopez' book adapted by Susannah Grant (Erin Brockovich) develops the feel-good [illegible] ... (120 min.) (KV) ATC [illegible] CNC CAPH [illegible] CC

Star Trek J.J. Abrams reboots the future in Star Trek and in the process [illegible] ... This was accomplished by jumping back in time (from Captain Jean-Luc Picard's The Next Generation) to the first adventures of [illegible] Kirk, Spock, and Dr. McCoy [illegible] the Enterprise [illegible] ... Zachary Quinto [illegible] Karl Urban [illegible] Spock and McCoy [illegible] (126 min.) (C.H.) ATC [illegible]

State of Play Russell Crowe and Rachel McAdams are reporters for the Washington Globe (the Post) trying to unravel the mysterious death of a congressional aide [illegible] a [illegible] senator (Ben Affleck) [illegible] investigating the abuses of the giant military [illegible] PointCorp [illegible] ... 2003 BBC miniseries [illegible] ... newspapers [illegible] (Crowe is a slovenly [illegible] investigator [illegible] lightweight blogger McAdams) [illegible] Rod Lurie's [illegible] Nothing but the Truth (2008), which [illegible] the Valerie Plame and Judith Miller [illegible] the happens to make the rest seem generic, rather than the other way around. Kevin Macdonald (The Last King of Scotland) directed, with Helen Mirren, Robin Wright Penn, and Jason Bateman (127 min.) [illegible] BA, RI

Sunshine Cleaning [illegible] Amy Adams and Emily Blunt [illegible] as two [illegible] sisters from Albuquerque who decide the post-mortem "crime scene cleanup" [illegible] ... Sounds like a recipe for a female Dumb and Dumber, but the [illegible] girls are anything but stupid — just [illegible] ... Director Christine Jeffs (Sylvia) [illegible] screenwriter Megan Holley [illegible] ... Alan Arkin [illegible] Steve Zahn [illegible] Jason Spevack [illegible] Clifton Collins Jr. [illegible] (102 min.) [illegible]

Treeless Mountain [illegible] So Yong Kim [illegible] ... Kim Hee-yeon and Kim Song-hee [illegible] (89 min.) (KV) RCE

Tyson Director James Toback [illegible] Mike Tyson [illegible] ... documentary monologue that answers many, but not all, questions about Tyson's notorious career as a mad-dog heavyweight champion in the '80s and '90s. [illegible] ... Evander Holyfield in the ring in 1997 (88 min.) [illegible]

X-Men Origins: Wolverine Parts of X-Men Origins: Wolverine don't seem [illegible] X-Men: The Last Stand, which is [illegible] Then again there are parts that are much worse. [illegible] is the way that, despite the movie's title, Wolverine (again played by Hugh Jackman) is shortchanged [illegible] ... we already know pretty much everything [illegible] the Weapon X program, [illegible] mutants were used [illegible] Logan has a brother Sabretooth (Liev Schreiber) [illegible] apparently [illegible] we saw in the first X-Men movie — [illegible] poorly developed script never explains why they [illegible] Maybe you'll see the [illegible] (107 min.) (C.H.) ATC [illegible]

Showtimes Online
Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com

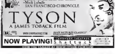
ONE-NIGHT STANDS

WED., MAY 27

The Century of Self, Episode Four: Eight People Sipping Wine in Kettering (60 min., 2002). (Humanist Hall, Oakland, 7:30)

Ask Not (73 min., 2008) KVS Community Cinema Series (Oakland Museum of California, 6:00)

WINNER AUDIENCE AWARD • 2008 BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL
★★★★!
DECIDEDLY SPECIAL SMART
Hiam Abbass is extraordinary
LEMON TREE
شجرة ليمون
עץ לימון
NOW PLAYING!
LANDMARK THEATRES Shattuck


"REMARKABLE!"
–Mick LaSalle
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
TYSON
A JAMES TOBACK FILM
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS
NOW PLAYING!
LANDMARK THEATRES Shattuck

"SO WONDERFUL! SOMETHING TO BE CHERISHED!
LUMINOUS AND DELICIOUSLY FUNNY!"
Kenneth Turan, LOS ANGELES TIMES
O'HORTEN
A Film by BENT HAMER
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS
STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 22ND
LANDMARK THEATRES Shattuck
VIEW THE TRAILER AT WWW.OHORTENMOVIE.COM

"FANTASTIC!"
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
"A THRILLING DAZZLER!
DON'T EVEN THINK OF MISSING IT!"
–Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
EVERY LITTLE STEP
THE JOURNEY OF "A CHORUS LINE" FROM THE VERY BEGINNING
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS
NOW PLAYING!
WWW.EVERYLITTLESTEPFILM.COM

LANDMARK THEATRES
—Academy Award® Nominee—

ALBANY 1115 Solano Ave. at San Pablo, Albany
Buy Tix www.landmarktheatres.com
SUMMER HOURS (NR)
EVERY LITTLE STEP (PG-13)

CALIFORNIA 2113 Kittredge near Shattuck, Berkeley
Buy Tix www.landmarktheatres.com
STAR TREK (PG-13)
ANGELS & DEMONS (PG-13)

PIEDMONT 4186 Piedmont at 41st, Oakland
Buy Tix www.landmarktheatres.com
THE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE (R)
LEMON TREE (NR)
RUDO Y CURSI (R)

SHATTUCK 2230 Shattuck at Kittredge, Berkeley
Buy Tix www.landmarktheatres.com
TERMINATOR SALVATION (PG-13)
LEMON TREE (NR)
THE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE (R)
SUNSHINE CLEANING (R)
O' HORTEN (PG-13)
TYSON (R)
GOODBYE SOLO (NR)
Screening Lounge
RUDO Y CURSI (R)
Screening Lounge
OUTRAGE (NR)
= The Screening Lounge

"EXTRAORDINARY. A MASTERPIECE."
–A.O. Scott, The New York Times
"A HIGHLIGHT OF THE MOVIEGOING YEAR."
Summer Hours
STARTS FRIDAY MAY 22ND
LANDMARK THEATRES
Albany Twin

Elmwood
RIALTO CINEMAS
Student Tix [illegible]
"A Thrillingly Moving Picture!" TIME
IL DIVO
A Vividly Authentic Romantic Thriller!
New York Post
SIN NOMBRE
"A World Of Tremendous Poise And Poignancy!"
[illegible] Magazine
TREELESS MOUNTAIN
Jamie Foxx Robert Downey Jr.
THE SOLOIST
"Remarkable!" Hollywood Reporter
ADORATION
"The Marvelous Michael Caine Gives One Of The Best Performances Of His Career!"
Hollywood Life
IS ANYBODY THERE?
College Ave at Ashby • 510-433-9730
www.rialtocinemas.com

JUNE 12TH-14TH
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA

31ST ANNUAL
HARMONY FESTIVAL
MUSIC ART ECOLOGY HEALTHY LIVING SPIRITUALITY FROM THE ROOTS UP

India.Arie • Matisyahu • CAKE • Kitaro
Michael Franti & Spearhead • ALO • K'Naan
The Orb • Balkan Beat Box • Gaudi • Shpongle
Steve Kimock Crazy Engine w/ Melvin Seals
Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars • Gaudi • Luminesque
LoCura • The Duhks • Wasabi Collective • Medicine Drum
Spirit of Miles Davis • Lynx & Janover • Davic Starfire • Abai

SPEAKERS Michael Beckwith & Rickie Byars Beckwith
Caroline Casey • Joanna Macy • George Noory
Starhawk • Julia Butterfly Hill • Daniel Pinchbeck

The Bay Area's 3-Day Music & Camping Festival

Global Marketplace with Over 350 Vendors - miniMEGA Ramp
Techno-Tribal Dance - Interactive Workshops _ Wellness Pavilion
Goddess Temple - Eco Fashion Zone & Show - Eco Village
Harmony Altar - Healing Sanctuary - Kids' Magical Playground
Sonoma County Fairgrounds • All-Weekend On-Site Camping Available

Many more bands, artists & speakers plus tickets & updated information at:
www.harmonyfestival.com

RUDE BOYZ PRESENT
THE
ECO CUP
SKATING WITH A CONSCIENCE
BAD BRAINS · DEAD KENNEDYS
SKATING FOR $40K IN PRIZE MONEY
BOB BURNQUIST · PIERRE LUC GAGNON ANDY MACDONALD
DEMOS & JUDGING BY STEVE CABALLERO & CHRISTIAN HOSOI

Big Business

Robin Laananen

MUSIC

THE EVOLUTION OF BIG BUSINESS

The addition of a guitarist edges the LA rock trio toward progressive metal

By Jacob Sprecher

Five years ago, drummer Coady Willis and bassist/vocalist Jared Warren formed a rather unique power tandem. Too hooky to be classified as pure metal but more intricate than straight-ahead rock, Big Business swung down on the independent limelight like a famished ape with its debut Hydra Head release *Head for the Shallow*. Amid constant touring and a regular issuance of EPs, 2007 found the duo cementing their name as a force to be reckoned with, after releasing *Here Come the Waterworks*. And after Willis and Warren joined the Melvins as semi-permanent members, Big Business is back out on the road pumping a full-length hot off the presses, *Mind the Drift*. "I'd rather be busy than bored," said Willis, from a van hurtling toward a gig in North Carolina.

"Busy" is certainly an understatement. Notwithstanding the Melvins grind, Willis recently reunited with his hallowed group of yore, the Murder City Devils, for a jaunt up and down the West Coast, which included a pair of sold-out shows at the Great American Music Hall. For the time being, though, Big Business is the dead-set priority, and why not? A quick listen to *Mind the Drift* finds the group treading both new and familiar waters. Warren's bass chops and operatic croon are devastating as ever, and Willis pounds away with the precision and fury fans have come to love and respect. But enter guitarist Toshi Kasai: Big Business is officially three parts strong.

"From the beginning, we never made a decision that we were going to be a two-piece," said Willis. "We just never really found a third person to fill it out, but Jared has always heard guitar parts in there."

After auditioning potential axe-wielders to no avail, Willis and Warren solicited Kasai (who has played with Altamont and Deaf Nephews) for guitar duties. And it's with the addition of Kasai that Willis finds *Mind the Drift* a step up in the band's ambition. "Having Toshi is a big, big difference," he said. "We made a lot more room for guitar on it as opposed to just putting in flourishes here and there, which is kind of what we've always wanted to do. We wrote some weirder songs. I feel like it's way more evolved."

Willis' sentiment is not just smoke: cuts like "Found Art" and "Cats, Mice" find Big Business stretching more and more toward the progressive edge of metal. But they don't pigeonhole this trio as a gang of stereotypical heshers.

"I mean, we play heavy music but we don't want to be put across as a metal band," Willis said. "Jared and I both enjoy listening to pop records. Maybe I'm just getting older, but when I see a band that's total doom and gloom, like the Cookie Monster guy singing up front, and they're really serious and so evil, it's just, like, how can you not laugh at that?"

Show Details

Big Business plays with Tweak Bird at Bottom of the Hill (1233 17th St., San Francisco) on Wednesday, May 27, 10 p.m., $12. MySpace.com/bigbigbusiness

For related reasons, producer Phil Ek was once again tapped to man the control boards. Ek, who has scratched out a lengthy list of credentials in the world of indie-pop (Fleet Foxes, Band of Horses, Built to Spill, the Shins), brings to the table an ear for pop sensibilities, well suited to nurture a spooky melody from "Ayes Have It" or the down-and-dirty stomp underscoring "The Drift."

"Phil's down with all that," said Willis. "Layering up multiple, multiple vocal tracks, weird percussion stuff. And we've all known each other for a really long time, so it's just like hanging out with a pal in the studio."

But at night's end, when the Gallien-Krueger head is seething with heat and the lock chain's itching to give, Big Business is able to step back and locate an oh-so-endearing quality: lightening up. "I don't consider our band a joke or anything like that, but we definitely don't take it super seriously," said Willis. "It's supposed to be fun. It's supposed to be rock 'n' roll." ●

Feedback@EastBayExpress.com

SAN FRANCISCO'S
OUTSIDE LANDS
MUSIC + ARTS FESTIVAL
TEN ARTISTS JUST ANNOUNCED IN ORANGE
Heineken
ANOTHER PLANET
SUPERFLY
STARR HILL

WWW.SFOUTSIDELANDS.COM

AUGUST 28-30, 2009

GOLDEN GATE PARK

PEARL JAM • DAVE MATTHEWS BAND • BEASTIE BOYS

INCUBUS • BLACK EYED PEAS • M.I.A. • JASON MRAZ • WEEN

THE MARS VOLTA • THIEVERY CORPORATION • MODEST MOUSE

BAND OF HORSES • TV ON THE RADIO • THE DEAD WEATHER • ATMOSPHERE
TOM JONES • CONOR OBERST & THE MYSTIC VALLEY BAND • SILVERSUN PICKUPS
LUCINDA WILLIAMS • ROBERT RANDOLPH & THE FAMILY BAND • THE NATIONAL
Q-TIP • BRETT DENNEN • THE AVETT BROTHERS • BUILT TO SPILL • MASTODON
RAPHAEL SAADIQ • CALEXICO • OS MUTANTES • MIDNITE • JJ GREY & MOFRO
KINKY • TEA LEAF GREEN • DEERHUNTER • LILA DOWNS • ZION I • BAT FOR LASHES
TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE • GROUNDATION • THE DODOS
BETTYE LAVETTE • LOS CAMPESINOS! • DENGUE FEVER • HEARTLESS BASTARDS
THE DIRTBOMBS • LENKA • AKRON/FAMILY • JOHN VANDERSLICE • MATT & KIM
PORTUGAL. THE MAN • THE MORNING BENDERS • THE DUKE SPIRIT • ZEE AVI
BLIND PILOT • SAMBADA • RYAN BINGHAM • DARONDO WITH NINO MOSCHELLA
WEST INDIAN GIRL • EXTRA GOLDEN • BIG LIGHT

Lineup subject to change

OUTSIDE LANDS ATTRACTIONS

For Visa Signature Preferred Seating
go to SFOutsidelands.com

Ashkenaz
Music & Dance Community Center

WED 5/20 9:00 pm $13 — BALKAN/GYPSY/FLAMENCO/KLEZMER
FISHTANK ENSEMBLE
+ Æ (EVA SALINA PRIMACK & AURELIA LUCY SHRENKER)
8:00 pm Balkan dance lesson with Jerry Duke

THU 5/21 9:00 pm $7 — GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT
DJ GANKMORE.COM
+ live set by KEY LIME PIE

FRI 5/22 9:00 pm $13 $10 advance — BLUEGRASS/AMERICANA/ROCK
MONTANA SLIM STRING BAND
CHRIS HAUGEN'S SEAHORSE ROBES WITH WALLY INGRAM
TOM FREUND

SAT 5/23 9:30 pm $13 $10 students — AFRICAN
BABA KEN & WEST AFRICAN HIGHLIFE BAND
8:00 pm African dance lesson with Comfort Mensah

SUN 5/24 3:00 pm $6 adults / $4 kids — "SILLY SUNDAYS" KIDS' SHOW
OCTOFRETZEL
Music & puppetry that's singable, danceable, engaging, & fun for kids of all ages!

SUN 5/24 7:30 pm $17 — FLAMENCO
FLAMENCO OPEN STAGE
featuring Amanda Pineda & students, Jude Fuhr, Paco Albian, El Spagete, Katja Cooper

TUE 5/26 8:30 pm $12 — CAJUN/ZYDECO FROM LOUISIANA
CEDRIC WATSON & BIJOU CREOLE
8:00 pm Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson with Dana DeSimone

BERKELEY'S HOME FOR WORLD MUSIC AND DANCE SINCE 1973
1317 San Pablo (at Gilman) (510)525-5054
Calendar, advance tickets, information: Ashkenaz.com ALL AGES, ALL THE TIME

DOWN LOW

WED 20TH
CONJUNTO ROVIRA
live salsa & dance lessons

THURS. 21ST
DJ SMOOTE PRESENTS:
THURSDAY THROWDOWN W/
REN THE VINYL ARCHAEOLOGIST

FRI 22ND-
JAZZ MAFIA PRESENTS:
JAMES BROWN VS STEVIE WONDER"
REALISTIC ORCHESTRA

SAT 23RD-
DISTORTION 2 STATIC & BEATS
RHYMES & LIFE PRESENT
YES, YES Y'ALL! WITH OH-NO
LIVE PERFORMANCES & DJS

SUN 24TH
"KING OF KING'S"
MEMORIAL DAY BASH!
DJ S SMOKE ONE,
I-VIER & IRIE DOJE
ROOTS, REGGAE, DANCEHALL

TUESDAYS: KARAOKE 6PM SIGN UPS

COMING UP:
DIEGO'S UMBRELLA :: MAY 29TH
DJ PLATURN :: MAY 30TH

2284 SHATTUCK AVE DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
510.548.1159 SHATTUCKDOWNLOW.COM

CD REVIEWS

FREAKS AND CURIOSITIES

Harper rocks out, Jane's boxed, and Sir Richard gets his freak on

Ben Harper and Relentless7

White Lies for Dark Times

Not unlike musical forefather and mentor Taj Mahal, Ben Harper has always been one of those musicians for which genres were a means to an end versus a way of defining oneself. For his latest outing, he's put regular sidemen the Innocent Criminals on the backburner and instead hooked up with Relentless7, a Texas trio better known as Oliver Future. The change of personnel seems to have reinvigorated Harper, who displays quite a bit more attitude in his playing and songwriting.

The sludgy swamp rocker opener "Number With No Name" sets the tone with heaps of hazy slide guitar that gives way to other heavy fare like "Shimmer & Shine," a perfect blend of post punk rhythms and acid rock that suggests a blending of the Jimi Hendrix Experience and the Buzzcocks. Elsewhere, the aggression generated by Harper and his new bandmates yields "Why Must You Always Dress in Black," a menacing shuffle that's got Slim Harpo's DNA all over it, and "Lay There & Hate Me," a vitriolic slice of simmering funk. Harper doesn't totally go off the rails — there's still a decent share of softer soulful juxtapositions guided by his thoughtful croon. "Skin Thin," a glimmering ballad, finds the Southern Californian framing his musical introspection in a gorgeous blanket of twang, as does the gentle closer "Faithfully Remain," a plea for emotional redemption delicately guided along by a Wurlitzer and spare timekeeping. Throughout, Harper ends up with the musical equivalent of a B-12 shot being given to the high level of creative prowess that's come to be expected from him. (Virgin)

— Dave Gil de Rubio

Ben Harper plays The Fillmore (1805 Geary blvd, San Francisco) on Wednesday, May 27, 8 p.m. $35. TheFillmore.com

Jane's Addiction

A Cabinet of Curiosities

What better way to welcome founding member Eric Avery back into the Jane's Addiction fold than by putting out a box set of recorded trinkets? Never mind that this Jane's lineup was responsible for only two full-length studio albums, or that the hodgepodge of recordings that is 1997's *Kettle Whistle* adds a hint of redundancy to *Cabinet*. With two of the CDs from this package consisting of demos and rarities from 1986-91 and the third disc being a 1990 live-show recording, it comes off like a more fleshed-out rarities collection. That said, the retrospective allows for a deeper appreciation for the solidly rendered subversity Perry Farrell and company were foisting on the masses. While Farrell's feral screech and Dave Navarro's heavily melodic riffing made the band immediately identifiable, it was the Avery/Stephen Perkins rhythm section that lent a tribal mysticism to songs like the ethereal "Mountain Song" and swaggering "Ocean Size."

All this and more are included in demo form along with the aforementioned live set from the Hollywood Palladium. The band's odd mish mash of covers that include Dylan, Bauhaus, the Doors and the Grateful Dead makes for a quirky tour of the band's inspiration. But it's the fourth disc, a DVD containing the 1989 home video *Soul Kiss* and its blend of blurred sexuality, goofy interviews, and odd scenes with a pet chicken and eel that captures Jane's Addiction's sonic eccentricities on a set that's tailor-made for completists only. (Warner Brothers/Rhino)

— Dave Gil de Rubio

Jane's Addiction plays the Shoreline Amphitheatre (One Amphitheatre Pkwy, Mountain View) on Friday, May 22, 8 p.m. $19-$50. ShorelineAmp.com

Sir Richard Bishop

The Freak of Araby

The breadth of sound that experimental rock band Sun City Girls worked with exceeds most groups. Eastern modalities were always part of their approach, but since the dissolution of the ensemble due to percussionist Charles Gocher's death in 2007, guitarist Sir Richard Bishop has moved even deeper into this musical territory.

With his 2007 Drag City debut, Bishop worked out some musical fragments with a variety of guitars, very rarely relying upon other accompaniment. For *The Freak of Araby*, however, the guitarist has opted for a full band. Considering how each Sun City Girls release included every odd musical source imaginable, Bishop's decision here seems warranted.

Where acoustic sounds dominated at least a portion of his previous band's recordings, *The Freak of Araby* is overwhelmingly electrified. "Taqasim for Omar," the only track where Bishop goes it alone, isn't acoustic, but it opens that mood through its reverbed, Eastern-flavored Les Paul guitar runs. It's also the only slow tempo song on the album — tracks like "Barbary" incorporate as many Eastern arpeggios as possible into rock enthusiasm. None of this, though, can aptly prepare listeners for the blowout that is "Blood Stained Sands." While related melodically, the bleating horns of the album's closer don't have any antecedent here. It serves as a final pronouncement of Bishop's musical ambition, which should not be ignored. (Drag City)

— Dave Canter

LOCAL LICKS

Orestes Vilató

It's About Time

Ten songs and fifty minutes of Latin music so rich and authentic you can feel the humidity. Grammy nominee and leading Latin percussionist Vilató guides his band (featuring Rebeca Mauleón, who also produced) through traditional Cuban rhythms and contemporary New York fusion without prejudice — so expertly, in fact, that it all feels unified. (RAFCA Records)

Sir Lord Von Raven

Please Throw Me Back in the Ocean

Eric Von Raven of the Time Flys and the Cuts returns with another set of unabashed vintage rock 'n' roll, the hip stuff that sneers and swaggers but never gets out of line. The Gris Gris' Greg Ashley recorded, co-produced, and played lead guitar. Fats Domino, however, made the best contribution of all via "I'm Ready," a sax-laced 1959 boogie that anchors the disc. (Happy Parts Recordings)

The Fresh & Onlys

The Fresh & Onlys

Coming from San Francisco's Castle Face Records (home to Ty Segall, John Dwyer, and more), it's gotta be gritty. Then the few examples of aimless garage rock, though inventive, don't pack much punch. The real moments of bliss on this debut, and there are many, skew toward tuneful, demented pop, recalling Lou Reed, Roky Erickson, and retro contemporaries like Ariel Pink's Haunted Graffiti. (Castle Face Records)

At Tonic Parkside (1600 17th St., San Francisco) on May 23, 9 p.m. $8.

No One and the Nobodies

Grew Some Feet

Another Oakland indie album bearing the mark of garage impresario Greg Ashley (where isn't he these days?), No One and the Nobodies' intermittently interesting debut is too messy for its own good. Local music fans have more than enough places to turn for faux vintage pop, rock, and folk without having to dig through one band's bedroom tapes. (Filthy Lesson Records)

At the Hemlock Tavern (1131 Polk St., San Francisco) on May 28, 9 p.m. $7.

Bay Area bands, show us what you've got. Send CDs to Local Licks c/o the *East Bay Express*.

EAST BAY EXPRESS
AND RASPUTIN MUSIC PRESENT...

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 7-9PM
AT THE SHATTUCK DOWN LOW
2284 SHATTUCK AVE. BERKELEY, CA 94704
FREE ADMISSION

JULIAN MARLEY
AWAKE

PREVIEW JULIAN MARLEY'S
NEW ALBUM "AWAKE"
TWO DAYS BEFORE THE ALBUM DROPS,
COURTESY OF RASPUTIN MUSIC.

DRINK SPECIALS UNTIL 9PM

EAST BAY EXPRESS RASPUTIN MUSIC & DVDS

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
VISIT EASTBAYEXPRESS.COM/ELERTS

GREAT TASTE
SPEAKS FOR
ITSELF.
Miller Lite
GREAT TASTE.
LESS FILLING.

Alameda's Original Naughty Little Lounge
2pm–2am Daily

Lostweekend Lounge
LOST WEEKEND LOUNGE
Alameda

MISSOURI
LOUNGE
2600 San Pablo Ave
Berkeley, CA 94702
Thursday
DJs Uncle Joe & Kool Kyle 10pm-2am
Friday
Happy Hours w/ Golden Grain 5-9pm The Spanish Channel w/ DJ Roger Stein 10pm-2am
Saturday
Warm-Up w/ Music By Fluid Cut 7-10pm Mixtape! w/ DJs Emily & Apr 10pm-2am
BEER GARDEN
NOW WITH OUTSIDE MUSIC
www.themissourilounge.com

BEAUTIFUL LOKS
A holistic approach to locking hair
NO twist, NO wax, NO maintenance
Lok extension, repair, and restoration
Free consultation

510 978 7370
beautifulloks@yahoo.com
www.beautifulloks.com

The Trappist
Belgian & Specialty Beer
THURSDAY, MAY 21ST 6-8PM
GUIDO NIGHT
Only Keg of Guido in Northern California
ALL ARE WELCOME AFTER 8PM
15 taps over 120 bottles
460 8th Street Oakland 510.238.8900
www.thetrappist.com

Starry Plough
THUR 5/21 — HOWL AND HELLO / HARBINGER / THE FANCY DAN BAND / ANDY MASON
FRI 5/22 — THE FLUX / THE BIG NASTY
SAT 5/23 — THE ZYDEPUNKS / CULANN'S HOUNDS
THUR 5/28 — JIL STILES AND THE STONE FOXES
FRI 5/29 — BIRDMONSTER / WINTER'S FALL / THE HUMLERS
SAT 5/30 — MARTHKON CD RELEASE W/ RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT / MORTAR
SUNDAYS 8:00 PM IRISH MUSIC SESSION W/ SHAY BLACK
TUESDAYS 7:30 PM • FREE OPEN MIC W/ JOHN PEZ
MONDAYS TRADITIONAL IRISH DANCE & CEILI
WEDNESDAYS BERKELEY POETRY SLAM
WWW.STARRYPLOUGHPUB.COM
3101 Shattuck Berkeley 510.841.2082

BLAKES NIGHT CLUB (subterranean level)
WEDNESDAYS Electro Pop Rocks
THURSDAYS FLIRT (no cover)
FRIDAY May 22nd 18+ 9pm $12 adv $15 day of show The Terry Hanck Band
SATURDAY May 23rd 18+ Private Party
SUNDAY May 24th All Ages $8 for 21+ $10 for Under 21 Mury, Paper Mache, Weekender, Youth Like Tigers
MONDAYS Thirsty Artist Open Mic
BLAKE'S SPECIALS
DJS Tuesday-Saturday 10pm-2am
Never a cover • Nightly Drink Specials
HAPPY HOUR
2367 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley
www.BlakesOnTelegraph.com

CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 21

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Andy Mason w/ the Fancy Dan Band, Howl and Hello, Harbinger. Starry Plough, 9 pm, $7

Singer/Songwriter Evening [illegible]

Strawberry Music Spring Festival [illegible]

Whiskey Hill [illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

B.B. King The Fillmore, 8 pm, $75

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

Yuja Wang [illegible]

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible]

FRIDAY 22

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

The Flux w/ the Big Nasty. Starry Plough, 9:30 pm, $10

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

Yuja Wang [illegible]

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

[illegible]

SATURDAY 23

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

[illegible]

EAST BAY EXPRESS & THE WHITE HORSE PRESENT:

DIVA DAN'S

WICKED GORGEOUS PRIDE CELEBRATION

QUEENS! KINGS! PRIZES!

BURLESQUE SHOW FEATURING

TWIGHLIGHT VIXEN REVUE

FRIDAY JUNE 19TH

DOORS AT 8PM ★ SHOW AT 9:30PM

WHITE HORSE INN 6551 TELEGRAPH AVE OAKLAND

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE
RUSTY NIPS
DIVA DAN
[illegible] SPELLING
KOLATTA TYMES
JEALOUSY
HOLY MCRAIL
BELLA FEM
LADY LINA

STORK CLUB LIVE MUSIC

ROCK & ROLL ◇ OAKLAND

$2 PABST BOTTLES EVERYNITE!

2330 TELEGRAPH AVE.
OAKLAND, CA 94612
(510) 444-6174

WED MAY 20 2009
SEEYA LATER HOTT DAXX
RAD CLOUD
THE JEN WEISBERG EXPERIENCE
DJ S WHITEMARE & SAM

THU MAY 21, 2009 - $8
LAVA NITES
PONTIAK
DRIFT OF A CURSE

FRI MAY 22, 2009 - $10
LAVA NITES
SIR RICHARD BISHOP AND HIS FREAK OF ARABY ENSEMBLE

SAT MAY 23 2009
ASH REITER
THE SIDESHOW TRAGEDY
BURBANK INTERNATIONAL
TREMORLOW

TUES. MAY 26, 2009
STEVE S BLUES NITE! W/ THE
THE LOVE LIGHT BLUES BAND

NOW OPEN TUE-FRI @ 3PM - HAPPY HOUR 5-7PM
TO BOOK YOUR BAND, PLEASE CONTACT:
STORKCLUBBOOKING@GMAIL.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:
WWW.STORKCLUBOAKLAND.COM

LUKA'S TAPROOM & LOUNGE

VOTED BEST PLACE TO DANCE
2007 EAST BAY EXPRESS

WED 9PM no cover — VOODOO WEDNESDAYS
DJ JUAN DATA & DJ SANTERO
[illegible]
salsa, samba, merengue, reggaeton & hip hop

THURS 10PM no cover — THE BIG MAN OF THE HOUSE
DJ GARY B
House & disco music to make your body move

FRI 10PM $10 after 11pm — MIGHTY IRIE ROCKER T PRESENTS
DJ SMOKE 1 & DJ IRIE DOLE
dancehall, reggae & hip hop

SAT 10PM $10 after 11pm — [illegible] PRESENTED BY [illegible]
OAKLAND FADERS, [illegible] & FINGERBANGERZ
[illegible]

SUN 9PM no cover — SOUL FULL
DJ AERO DEE
Soul: new & old, hip hop, reggae, funk & house

MON 9PM no cover — old school HIP HOP KARAOKE
DJ C MOSES spinning local love

TUES 9PM no cover — SOULFYAH [illegible]
DJ SEBO & KOOL KYLE
spinning reggae, dancehall & classics

LATE NIGHT MENU

Burger, Mac & Cheese & More
Served until Midnight
7 nights a week

2221 BROADWAY @ WEST GRAND OAKLAND
510 451 4677 www.LUKASOAKLAND.COM

JOIN THE INDIE REVOLUTION

SUPPORT LOCAL, INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES AND ARTISTS!

Email Indie@EastBayExpress.com to receive exclusive
Indie Revolution information and offers throughout 2009

Hike, bike, camp, swim and discover nature at one of our many great parks.

MAY IS DEDICATED TO STAYCATIONS
(YOU KNOW, STAY LOCAL VACATIONS)

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT, OAKLAND

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITES

EAST BAY EXPRESS
EastBayExpress.com
ShopOakland.com
BuyLocalBerkeley.com
SustainableBiz.org

The Home of Extreme Beers in Downtown Hayward

THE BISTRO

Mucho Axe

Pladdohg

Rosemary's Garden

Dead Guise

Dave Walker Blues Jam

Jesse the Bartender Ventura

The Cal Alumni Big Band

1001 B St., Hayward

• 20 Belgian Beers • 12 Microbrews on tap •

HOME OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

FREIGHT & SALVAGE

COFFEEHOUSE

WED MAY 20 • Dry Branch Fire Squad
aggressively traditional bluegrass

THU MAY 21 • David Berkeley
resurgent folk-rock Jeremy Dion opens

WED MAY 27 • Soldier Stories
benefit for veterans health care

THU MAY 28 • Kleptograss
Eric Thompson's musical innovations

FRI MAY 29 • Rossanna Sidibe and the Mystic Rhythms Band
a SEVA benefit with Wavy Gravy, MC

1111 Addison Street • Berkeley
(510) 548 1761 • freightandsalvage.org
18 and under 1/2 price • alcohol-free venue

Mel-o-dee

COCKTAILS

Karaoke • DJs and Live Music • Trivia Night • Wii

Happy Hour
Mon - Thurs 4-7 • Friday - Sun 1-4
(510) 526 2131
In the El Cerrito Plaza
next to Trader Joe's

GUEST DJ'S ON SUNDAY'S & TUESDAY'S

www.MeloDeeLounge.com

OAKLAND'S ONLY HISTORIC PIANO BAR

Red Dibble Tickles the Ivories
Tuesday-Saturday 8pm-Closing

HEY LOOK AT EVEN PEOPLE HAVE FUN IN
"THE ALLEY"

OPEN
Sun Mon 8:30 to 12 am
Tues Sat 6pm to 2am

Dinner Served
6pm to 10pm
7 Days A Week

3325 Grand Ave. • Oakland • (510)444-8505

La Peña

3105 SHATTUCK AVE. BERKELEY 510-849-2568

THE MARACATS & LOS BROS
Pre-Carnaval Celebration!

THURS 21
NETTA BRIELLE
Jazz Pop Soul Hip Hop

FRI 22
RANFERI AGUILAR
Hometown via Lluvia/Mayan Music

SAT 23
ADELINA ANTHONY
Presents LA SAD GIRL

SUN 24
SIA AMMA'S
In Search of My Clitoris

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.LAPENA.ORG

KING
SIN

BEST HAPPY HOUR IN THE EAST BAY!
...it's sinful

HAPPY HOUR
4-7 PM DAILY

ROAD TO THE NBA FINALS
COMPLEMENTARY APPET 2881

"Taste the Rainbow"
SKITTLE VODKA
5 SHOTS FOR $7

RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

PICKS

The Flatlanders.

Jose Bulnes

The Flatlanders

Best described as a supergroup of cult heroes, **the Flatlanders** revolve around the West Texas singer-songwriter triumvirate of Butch Hancock, Joe Ely, and Jimmie Dale Gilmore. The trio managed to enjoy a second act after the band's obscure 1972 debut *Jimmie Dale and the Flatlanders* was released in 1990 as *More a Legend Than a Band*. Since the band reconvened a decade later to cut songs for the *Horse Whisperer* soundtrack, the Flatlanders have enjoyed sporadic studio efforts. The latest is *Hills and Valleys*, a baker's dozen worth of cuts produced by Lloyd Maines (father of Dixie Chick Natalie). The best conglomeration of twang since the Highwaymen will be getting it done on Saturday, May 23, at **Slim's** (333 11th St., San Francisco), 9 p.m. $30. Slims-SF.com — *Dave-Gil de Rubio*

Howard Wiley Organ Trio

Even before launching their professional careers, saxophonist **Howard Wiley** and keyboardist **Mike Aaberg** were different than the young "lions" who emerge from East Bay arts programs with conservatory scholarships in hand. These two weren't just hard-driving players with solid rhythm and tone production, they also had a certain adult sensibility that you don't often find in young musicians. Now well-established in the local and national scene, Wiley and Aaberg still play together. Recently, they formed a new trio with Wiley on tenor, Aaberg on organ, and drummer Sly Randolph (of Wiley's Angola Project ensemble) anchoring the rhythm section. They play every Sunday at Oakland's new **Aqua Lounge** (511 [illegible]), offering a wide-ranging repertoire of jazz, blues, and funk from the last four decades. Those who've never been to a Howard Wiley gig will be pleasantly surprised — he's got jokes for days. **Soul Jazz Sundays** kicks off at 5 p.m. and only costs $5. Free with dinner. HowardWiley.com — *Rachel Swan*

Gabriele Pugliese

Gojira.

Gojira

Of all the sub-genres of rock these days, arguably none have been pushing the boundaries both in terms of technical skill and creating new sounds as metal. For many contemporary forward-thinking bands, early-era Metallica was a vital jumping-off point. But its mentees have evolved the band's once-groundbreaking elements — the start-stop riffing, the double-bass flurries — to insane heights. A leader of the pack is French metal band **Gojira**, which combines technical prowess with prog elements and crushing heaviness to deliver its environmental message. The highlight was 2005's *From Mars to Sirius*, which punishes from beginning to end. Last year's *The Way of All Flesh* didn't disappoint either. However, the band may have raised the bar impossibly high. It's almost frightening to think where it could go from here. Gojira plays **Slim's** (333 11th St., San Francisco) on Thursday, May 21, 7:30 p.m. $18-$20. Slims-SF.com — *Kathleen Richards*

Roy Rogers and the Delta Rhythm Kings

Roy Rogers started playing rock guitar when he was a kid in Vallejo, but hearing a Robert Johnson record changed the course of his life and led him to slide guitar. He joined John Lee Hooker's band in 1982 and produced and played on two Grammy-winning albums with the legend, *The Healer* and *Mr. Lucky*. Meanwhile, he led his own barn-burning trio **Roy Rogers and the Delta Rhythm Kings**. The band is one of the finest blues outfits going, with Rogers' pyrotechnic slide-guitar leading the finely honed attack. Adept at swamp rock, boogie, blues shuffles, jazz, and funk, Rogers and the band always leave behind a roomful of satisfied fans. The band celebrates the release of its new album, *Split Decision*, at **Yoshi's** (1330 Fillmore St., San Francisco) on Saturday, May 23, 8 p.m. & 10 p.m., $20. Rogers will play a solo acoustic concert for kids on Sunday, May 24, $5 for kids, $10 for adults (with kid), 2 p.m. Yoshis.com — *J. Poet*

The MasterGuild Series

Under the direction of pianist Ray Bogas, **the MasterGuild Series** at Holy Names University presents excellent performances of chamber music performed by members of the San Francisco Symphony and the friends of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. On Sunday, May 24, Bogas is joined by friends Axel Strauss, Amy Hiraga, Nancy Ellis, Peter Wyrick, and guest Mark Wright for performances of Hindemith's Four Temperaments and Schubert's great, delightful Trout Quintet. At the **Regents Theatre at Holy Names University** (3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland), 7:15 p.m. $5-$20. MasterGuild.org or 510-[illegible] — *Jason Victor Serinus*

SEE, TRY & Buy...
but pay the same or less than on the Internet!
PLUS...YOU PAY NO SALES TAX in MAY
...on all Guitars, Basses and M-Audio Gear in stock!!

Leo's Pro Audio

5447 Telegraph Ave. Oakland, CA 94609 (510) 653-1000 sales@leosaudio.com

C&C

Strawberry Music Spring concert w/ Michael Franti & Spearhead, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Natalie MacMaster, Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives, [illegible], Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue, [illegible], the Flatlanders, & more. Camp Mather. [illegible]

The Zydepunks w/ Culann's Hounds, Stary Plough. 9:30 pm. $10

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] w/ Pigs in the Ground, Peninsula Project. [illegible] 8 pm. TBA

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible], 8 pm. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible], 8 pm. $10

[illegible] Trio [illegible], 8 pm. free

[illegible] Trio Bedlam's, 10 pm. free

[illegible] dinner jazz w/ guest [illegible] singers. The Alley. 8 pm. free

[illegible] Yoshi's. 8 & 10 pm. $18

Rock & Pop

Cash'd Out w/ the [illegible], Uptown. 9 pm. $10

[illegible] of Love w/ the New [illegible] and Thieves, [illegible], & [illegible] Bandz. 924 Gilman. 8 pm. $7

An Evening w/ [illegible] Bedlam's. 7:30 pm. Out

[illegible] Vinnie's Bar & Grill. 9:30 pm. Out

Los [illegible] de La Peña Saturday morning children's show w/ [illegible], La Peña Cultural Center. 10:30 am. $5, kids $4

The [illegible] Tragedy w/ [illegible], [illegible]. Stork Club. 8 pm. $5

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] Entertainment Kimball's Carnival, 8 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

All Night Milonga milonga starts at 8:30 p.m., then party at [illegible] Cafe Brown Center for the Arts, 1[illegible] pm, $15 [illegible], $10 [illegible] milonga

[illegible] & West [illegible] Band [illegible] African dance lesson at 9 p.m., [illegible], 9:30 pm, $13, students $10

[illegible] Band w/ [illegible], Sweet Fingers, 9 pm, free

[illegible] Son w/ [illegible] Project, La Pena de Cafe, 7:30 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

The [illegible] w/ Colin Gilmore [illegible], 9 pm, $20

[illegible] Italian folk music w/ [illegible] Caffe [illegible], 10:30 pm-12:30 pm, free

[illegible] [illegible] Cafe, 8 pm, free

Roy [illegible] & the [illegible] Rhythm Kings Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $18-$20, kids' matinee $5

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Orange Tulip Symphony w/ [illegible], Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $7-$12

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

[illegible] Babylon musical revue and [illegible] of pop-culture figures in which Snow White [illegible] the world in [illegible]

of house [illegible], 7 & 10 pm, $25-$31

The Charles Unger Experience [illegible], 6-10 pm, free

[illegible] [illegible] 9-11 pm, free

The Sephardic Music Project Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum, 1-2:30 pm, free

[illegible] Quintet w/ [illegible] Quartet, [illegible], 8 pm, $20-$50

[illegible] & the Little Big Band [illegible], 10:30 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Aqua Turtle Seduction w/ the New Up, [illegible] Frost, The Independents, 8 pm, $12-$14

[illegible] Dickerson w/ Lounge [illegible], [illegible] Social Club, 9 pm, $10

Flooding Soul w/ [illegible], the Long [illegible] Bar [illegible], [illegible], 8 pm, $7

Rock & Roll Happy Hour Show w/ [illegible] bands, [illegible], 3-8 pm, free

Lil' Tuffy's 7th [illegible] featuring [illegible] Red Devil Lounge, 8 pm, $20

SF Pop Fest 2009 featuring [illegible], Northern Portrait, My Teenage Stride, the Magic Bullets, & the [illegible], [illegible], 8 pm, $13-$15

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Center, [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible], 10 pm, $12

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

[illegible] & [illegible] Jones [illegible], 8 pm, $30-$60

[illegible] [illegible] Blues, 8 & 10 pm, $22

[illegible] & the [illegible] Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $15

The Pharcyde The Fillmore, 8 pm, $35

[illegible] & the Funky [illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

The Carnaval Party w/ [illegible] Big Frog, [illegible], 10 pm, $12-$15

[illegible] Jazz [illegible], 2 pm, $20-$25, students and [illegible] $10, children under 12 $12

SUNDAY 24

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Americana Unplugged live bluegrass, Americana & old-time w/ [illegible] artists, Sweeter, 5 pm, free

[illegible] Highwater Nectar Cafe, 11 am-1 pm, free

Strawberry Music Spring Festival w/ [illegible] & [illegible], [illegible] Fire Squad, Natalie MacMaster, Marty Stuart & the Fabulous Superlatives, the Wrangler, [illegible] & Orleans Avenue, [illegible], the Pinlanders, & more, Camp [illegible], 1 pm, $85, [illegible] $70, [illegible] $180-$200

Traditional Irish Music with [illegible] Starry Plough, 8 pm, sliding [illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible] performing Carl Orff's Catulli Carmina, First Congregational Church, 7:30 pm, $20, seniors $18, [illegible] $10

Chamber Music [illegible] performing works by Schubert, Beethoven, [illegible] & more, St. John's Presbyterian Church, 3 pm, $20-$25

CLUB DIRECTORY

EAST BAY

21 Grand Gallery/Performance Space 416 25th St., Oakland, 510-444-7263.

23 [illegible] Shop & [illegible] 10050 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-[illegible]

[illegible] 1402 Solano Ave., Albany, 510-528-1217

[illegible] 1[illegible] Gilman St., Berkeley, 510-525-9926.

Air Bar & Lounge 492 9th St., [illegible], Oakland, 510-444-2377

[illegible] Pub 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-2473. [illegible]

The Alley 3325 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-8505

Amoeba Music 2455 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-549-1125.

[illegible] Jazz [illegible] 120 [illegible] Way, Berkeley, 510-631-5290

Armando's 70 [illegible] Ave., Martinez, 925-228-0035

[illegible] 1217 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-525-5054

[illegible] 4805 Hopyard, Pleasanton, 925-[illegible]

Bay [illegible] 5815 Bay St., Emeryville

[illegible] 2271 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-1290

[illegible] Bar 2111 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-444-2[illegible]

[illegible] Center for the Arts 1361 Lincoln St., Alameda, 510-523-4912

Bobby's [illegible] 1751 Arroyo Way, Walnut Creek, 925-979-0130

The [illegible] 1101 B St., Hayward, 510-[illegible]

[illegible] on Telegraph 2301 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-0886

[illegible] on Telegraph (upstairs) 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, 510-848-0886.

[illegible] 3501 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-5156

Lounge at [illegible] 8 S. L. Vineyard Ave., Livermore, 925-249-8830.

[illegible] 270 [illegible] St., [illegible], 925-938-4550

Club [illegible] 433 3rd St., Oakland, 510-465-9165

[illegible] 135 12th St., Oakland, 510-238-8404

[illegible] 3355 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-4228

College [illegible] 6[illegible] Telly St., Oakland, 925-229-3344

[illegible] Lounge 5422 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-2988

Don's Great Sports Bar 1524 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-932-1301

Eagles Hall 2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda, 925-[illegible]

Easy Lounge 3255 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-338-4981

[illegible] Auditorium 176 Broadway, Oakland, 510-893-2350

First Congregational Church 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, 510-848-3696

First Presbyterian Church 2619 Broadway, Oakland, 510-444-3555

[illegible] 1807 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] 1-8 W. [illegible], Hayward, 510-[illegible]

Freight & Salvage 1111 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-548-1761.

[illegible] UC Berkeley, [illegible] Way at College Ave., Berkeley, 510-642-9988.

[illegible] 1435 Encinal St., Alameda, 510-865-3035

Jazzschool 2087 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-845-5373

[illegible] Community Center of the East Bay 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237

Julie's [illegible] & [illegible] 1223 Park St., Alameda, 510-865-2385.

Jupiter 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-843-8277

[illegible] 1408 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-251-8703

[illegible] 522 2nd St., Oakland, 510-451-6855

King Tsin Chinese Restaurant 1699 Solano Ave., Berkeley

[illegible] Lucky Lounge 3532 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-5464.

[illegible] 856 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-5886

Kitty's 6702 Hollis St., Emeryville, 510-[illegible]

La Peña Cultural Center 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568.

La [illegible] 1909 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-658-2343

Lake [illegible] Methodist Church 3330 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]

Lakeshore [illegible] Church 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-893-2484.

Laney College Theater 900 Fallon St., Oakland, 510-464-3543

[illegible] Lounge 920 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 510-[illegible]

Luka's [illegible] & Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakland, 510-451-4677

[illegible] Lounge 341 13th Street, Oakland, 510-839-6000

[illegible] Lounge 2800 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2068

[illegible] Cafe 6500 Shattuck Ave., Oakland, 510-295-5344.

[illegible] City Center 580 13th St., Oakland, 510-238-6000

[illegible] Metro Operahouse 630 3rd St., Oakland, 510-763-1146

ORACLE Arena 7000 [illegible] Way, Oakland, 510-569-2121

Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakland, 510-465-6400

Peter's Restaurant 32 Lafayette Circle, Lafayette, 925-284-7117

[illegible] 858 Main St., Pleasanton, 925-846-8106

[illegible] 1951 Embarcadero Cove, [illegible], 510-536-2050

[illegible] 435 13th St., Oakland, 510-451-2889

[illegible] 3553 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, 925-284-4877

Stag [illegible] 132 14th St., Oakland, 510-444-3728

Saddle Rack 42011 Boscell Rd., Fremont, 510-979-0477

[illegible] 2284 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-1159

[illegible] 1411 San Leandro Valley Blvd. Bldg. 130, San [illegible]

[illegible] 2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-522-1000

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-848-5107

St. John's Presbyterian Church 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6830

Starry Plough 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082.

[illegible] 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-444-6174

[illegible] 464 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 510-553-9800

Uptown 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8100

[illegible] 34[illegible] MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-530-3371

The [illegible] 2272 Telegraph [illegible], Oakland, 510-451-1981

[illegible] Grill [illegible] Diablo St., Concord, 925-685-5565

[illegible] Vineyards [illegible] 5050 Arroyo Rd., Livermore, 925-456-2000

[illegible] Restaurant UC Berkeley, Berkeley, 510-642-4297

[illegible] 6551 Telegraph Ave., [illegible], 510-653-3826

[illegible] 500 Embarcadero West, Oakland, 510-238-9200

Zellerbach Hall UC Campus, Berkeley, 510-642-9988.

[illegible] 552 Grand Ave., [illegible], 510-839-9124.

WEDNESDAYS!
BRAIN DAMAGE:
DRINKIN' MUSIC WITH
YOUR HOST KING DAVEY
AND DJ HICKSMOKEY!

WEEKEND BRUNCH!
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
ALL YOU CAN EAT WAFFLES $7!

HAPPY HOUR 4 UNTIL 8
$2.50 PABST ON TAP!

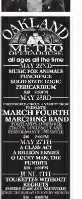
LATE NIGHT FOOD!

OPEN TUESDAY- SUNDAY
5532 SAN PABLO AVE, OAKLAND

KALX 90.7 FM
BERKELEY

THE 2009
KATE WOLF MEMORIAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
JUNE 26 - 28

Emmylou Harris
Richard Thompson
Patty Griffin • Mavis Staples
The Blind Boys of Alabama
Shawn Colvin • Railroad Earth
Dave Alvin & the Guilty Women
Ruthie Foster Band
Riders in the Sky • Buddy Miller
Chris Smither • Rosalie Sorrels
Ramblin' Jack Elliott
Preservation Hall Jazz Band
Po' Girl • Girlyman • Joel Rafael
Rita Hosking & Cousin Jack
Sherry Austin Band • Joe Craven
Poor Man's Whiskey
Work o' the Weavers w/Ronnie Gilbert
Love Choir • Duncan Phillips • more
[illegible]
TICKETS 415-256-8499 866-558-4253
info: www.cumuluspresents.com
707-829-7067
[illegible]
HELD AT BEAUTIFUL BLACK OAK RANCH
LAYTONVILLE, CA



OAKLAND METRO OPERAHOUSE
all ages all the time
MAY 22ND
MUSIC FOR ANIMALS
PUNCHFACE
SOLID STATE LOGIC
PERICARDIUM
$10 8:00PM
MAY 23RD
UNDERWORLD CIRCUS & VARIETY SHOW
PRESENTS
MARCH FOURTH
MARCHING BAND
PORTLAND'S 32 MEMBER
CIRCUS, BURLESQUE AND
PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE
$10 8:00PM
MAY 27TH
A CLASS ACT
A BILLION ERNIES
O LUCKY MAN, THE
PUNDITS
$10 - 8:00PM
JUNE 4TH
TOURETTES WITHOUT
REGRETS
(POETRY SLAM AND VAUDVILLE)
FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
$10 - 8:00PM
630 3rd Street • Oakland • 510-763-1146
oaklandmetro.org

C&C

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Susan Adams/Ken Filiano/Bruce Ambassador Quartet 21 Grand Gallery/Performance Space. 4 pm. $0-$10

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Art Lande Jazz Memorial Day Concert Jazzschool. 4:30 pm. $15

Jim [illegible] Jazz Quartet classic & contemporary jazz. Coffee Mill. 3-6 pm. free

Bobo Tyrell Yoshi's. 7 & 4 pm. $20

Rock & Pop

Konfest 2009 featuring Tipo, REO Speedwagon, 38 Special, & Greg Kihn Band. Sleep Train Amphitheatre. 4 pm. $25-$65.50

Mary w/ Paper Moche, Needmore, & Yeah Like Tiger. Blakes on Telegraph. 7 pm. $8; under 21 $10

Ontopnetel "Silly Sundays" kids show. Ashkenaz. 3-4:30 pm. $4-$6

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

It's a Free Country Sunday w/ local acts. Thee Parkside. 4 pm. free

Luka Bloom w/ [illegible]. Great American Music Hall. 8 pm. $21

Roy Rogers & the Delta Rhythm Kings Yoshi's San Francisco. 7 pm. $18-$20; kids' matinee $5

Thirty Fours Biscuits & Blues. 8-11:30 pm. $14

Classical & Opera

Dimitri Sedo on piano for Sunday champagne brunch. Top of the Mark. 10 am-2 pm. $59 for brunch plus gratuity and tax

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Beach Blanket Babylon longest-running musical spoof of pop-culture figures in which Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming. Club Fugazi. 2 & 5 pm. $25-$77

Dr. Nucha Rite Spot Cafe. 8 pm. free

Jerome Sabbagh Trio CD Release Coda. 4 pm. $20

Will Saunders and Jim Roper and featuring Lee Sauvage and Dave Hughes. Yoshi's San Francisco. 7 pm. $18

Battle of the Bands: Harry Miller vs. Tommy Dunne Davies Symphony Hall. 7 pm. $70-$90

Rock & Pop

The Coshers w/ Great Northern, Eulogies. The Independent. 8 pm. $15

My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult Red Devil Lounge. 4 pm. $15-$18

The New York Dolls w/ the Stoles. The Grand Ballroom. 4 pm. $25-$27

SF Pop Fest 2009 w/ Hidden Cameras, Eux Autres, Fear Nuns, Birds of California, & Cheap Red. Cafe du Nord. 7 pm. $13-$15

Terry Saunders Johnny Foley's Irish House. 9 pm. free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Lady Sovereign w/ Cherrie Franck, Hollywood Holt. Rickshaw Stop. 9 pm. advance tickets sold out, at door $18

Lounge w/ DJ Big Von, special guests. Mezzanine. 9 pm. $30-$50

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Canadian Brass Boys Cowell Theater. 2 pm. $20-$25; students and seniors $16, children under 12 $12

Georges Lammam Ensemble music and dance from the Middle East. Peña Pachamama. 8:30 pm. $14

New Sandhiya in Indian Carnatic Music featuring sitarist Santa Nagdev. Cowell Theater. 7 pm. $20

Queen Makedah and Dub Gad Rasselas. 8 pm. $20

MONDAY 25

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Mountain Mandolin Ensemble Caffe Trieste. 1-5 pm. free

Traditional Irish Dance and Band Starry Plough. 7 pm. free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Miles Shaw Birthday Bash featuring high-school musicians from around the Bay Area. Yoshi's. 8 pm. $10

Uptown Monday "Bubba" Uptown. 8 pm. $8

Rock & Pop

Flight of the Conchords Berkeley Community Theatre. 6 & 9 pm. $36.50

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

KBLX Sunset Soul Classics w/ Charlie Wilson, Jeffrey Osborne, Average White Band, & Ashford & Simpson. Sleep Train Pavilion at Concord. noon. $33.75-$88.75

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaeton

Musica de Diversiones traditional Italian music. Caffe Trieste. 7 pm. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

California Blues Festival w/ Bobbie "Spider" Webb and the Steady Rollin Band, Fillmore Slim, Birdlegg & the Tightfit Blues Band, Tia Carroll, Noah Gyer, Psychedelic Mike, Wine O, & Pinkie Rideau. Golden Gate Park. 12-5 pm. free

Bird Smoke Ireland's 32 Bar & Grill. 4 pm. call

Real Harvey Unplugged Skip's Tavern. 7:30

CLUB DIRECTORY

SAN FRANCISCO

222 Club 222 Hyde St. 415-440-0222

330 Ritch 330 Ritch St. 415-541-9574

Amoeba Music 1855 Haight St. 415-831-1200

Annie's Social Club 917 Folsom St. 415-974-1585

Anthem 1014 Bush St. 415-771-1818

Azul Bar & Lounge 1 Tillman Pl. 415-362-9750

Bacar Restaurant and Wine Salon 448 Brannan St. 415-904-4100

Bar 888 888 Howard St. 415-618-6823

Bazaar Cafe 5927 California St. 415-831-5620

Beach Chalet 1000 Great Highway. 415-386-8439

[illegible] Bar 2299 [illegible] St. 415-285-0323

Bimbo's 365 Club 1025 Columbus Ave. 415-474-0365

Bird & Beckett Books & Records 653 Chenery St. 415-586-3733

Biscuits & Blues 401 Mason St. 415-292-2583

Bottom of the Hill 1233 17th St. 415-621-4455

Bruno's 2389 Mission St. 415-643-5200

Cafe du Nord 2170 Market St. 415-861-5016

Cafe International 508 Haight St. 415-558-7131

Caffe Trieste 601 Vallejo St. 415-982-2605

Cat Club 1190 Folsom St. 415-431-3332

Catalyst Cocktails 312 Harriet St. 415-621-8722

The Cellar 685 Sutter St. 415-441-5874

Club Kanvas 145 [illegible] St. 415-552-2779

Coda 1710 Mission St. 415-[illegible]

Club Fugazi 678 Green St. 415-421-4222

Club Six 60 Sixth St. 415-863-1221

Cowell Theater Marina Blvd. Fort Mason Center. 415-345-7575

Davies Symphony Hall 201 Van Ness Ave. 415-864-6000

Dirty Martini 2801 Leavenworth St. 415-776-5811

DNA Lounge 375 11th St. 415-626-1409

Dogpatch Saloon 2496 3rd St. 415-643-8592

The Eagle Tavern 398 12th St. 415-626-0880

Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary St. 415-885-4074

El Matador 2700 16th St. 415-407-9240

El Rio 3158 Mission St. 415-282-3325

Elbo Room 647 Valencia St. 415-552-7788

[illegible] Lounge 1060 Geary St. 415-673-5302

The Gold Up 410 4th St. 415-848-0900

The Fillmore 1805 Geary Blvd. 415-346-6000

Glas Kat 520 4th St. 415-285-1988

The Grand Ballroom 1290 Van Ness Ave. 415-673-5716

Great American Music Hall 859 O'Farrell St. 415-885-0750

Hemlock Tavern 1131 Polk St. 415-923-0923

Herbst Theatre 401 Van Ness Ave. 415-392-4400

Hotel Utah 500 4th St. 415-546-6300

The Independent 628 Divisadero St. 415-771-1421

Ireland's 32 Bar & Grill 3920 Geary Blvd. 415-386-6173

Jazz at Pearl's 256 Columbus Ave. 415-291-8255

Johnny Foley's Irish House 243 O'Farrell St. 415-954-0777

The Knockout 3223 Mission St. 415-550-6994

Levende Lounge 1710 Mission St. 415-864-5585

Madrone Lounge 500 Divisadero St. 415-241-0202

Make-Out Room 3225 22nd St. 415-647-2888

Mezzanine 444 Jessie St. 415-625-8880

The Music Store 66 West Portal Ave. 415-664-2044

Noe Valley Ministry 1021 Sanchez St. 415-454-5238

Park Chalet Brewery 1000 Great Highway. 415-386-8439

Peña Pachamama 1630 Powell St. 415-646-0018

Pier 23 The Embarcadero. 415-362-5125

Red Devil Lounge 1695 Polk St. 415-921-1695

Retox Lounge 628 20th St. 415-626-7386

Rickshaw Stop 155 Fell St. 415-861-2011

Rite Spot Cafe 2099 Folsom St. 415-552-6066

Rockit Room 406 Clement St. 415-387-6344

Ruby Skye 420 Mason St.

San Francisco Conservatory of Music 50 Oak St. 415-503-6275

Skip's Tavern 453 Cortland Ave. 415-282-3456

Skylark 3089 16th St. 415-621-9294

Slim's 333 11th St. 415-522-0333

Space 550 550 Barneveld Ave. 415-550-8286

Stud Bar 399 9th St. 415-863-6623

Sub/Mission Gallery 2183 Mission St. 415-255-7227

SupperClub 657 Harrison St. 415-348-0900

Swig Bar 561 Geary St. 415-931-7292

Temple 540 Howard St.

Thee Parkside 1600 17th St. 415-503-0393

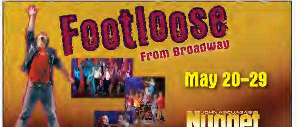
Top of the Mark 1 Nob Hill, 999 California St. 415-616-6916

Tunnel Top 601 Bush St. 415-986-8900

Velvet Lounge 443 Broadway St. 415-788-0228

The Warfield 982 Market St. 415-775-7722

Yoshi's San Francisco 1330 Fillmore St. 415-655-5600



EAST BAY EXPRESS

has moved to JACK LONDON SQUARE!

Visit our new digs at 620 3rd Street, Oakland, CA 94607

The *Express* is proud to join the Oakland Grown movement!

THE WHITE HORSE INN

FRIDAYS DJ RYAN

SATURDAYS DJ DREWBAD

6551 TELEGRAPH OAKLAND 510-652-3820

The East Bay's
Best Music Listings

EastBayExpress.com & m.EastBayExpress.com

FOXES

Enjoy Tusker Beer!

[illegible] (510) 763-1700

Closed Every Tuesday

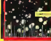
Wednesday
Slippery Wet Wednesday
Open Mic & Poetry • No Cover

Thursday
Face Value Productions
Old Skool R&B HipHop • Ladies Night
Drink Discount, Free Pool for Ladies
$5 Cover 10pm - 1:30am

Friday
DJ SupaK
R&B HipHop • $5 Cover 10pm-1:30am

Saturday
AD Productions w/ Hoodstyle DJ's
$5 Cover 10pm-1:30am

AMOEBA MUSIC™



ISIS
Wavering Radiant 13.98 CD

Wavering Radiant finds every component of the Isis armory coming into equal play. Grandiose without being over-indulgent, epic without compromising focus. *Double LP set available for $22.98*

FEDERICO AUBELE
Amatoria 13.98 CD

Aubele infuses his distinctive Spanish guitar sound with subtle electronic beats to create a unique collage of intimate love songs. Featuring vocal collaborations with Natalia Clavier, Sabina Sciubba of The Brazilian Girls and Miho Hatori of Cibo Matto.

SPECIAL STOREWIDE SUPER SALE!
For all retail trees only
Any Six $1.00 Beef Tag Clearance CDs For Only 2 BUCKS!!
(Offer valid at Amoeba Berkeley only; not valid with any coupons or other discount offers)

THE WARLOCKS
The Mirror Explodes 12.98 CD

The Warlock's signature amalgam of "White Light/White Heat" attack, space panoramas, fuzz, melancholy and melody is present and potent, in vivid tones. *LP available for $15.98*

2455 TELEGRAPH AVENUE • BERKELEY • (510) 549-1125
1855 HAIGHT STREET • SAN FRANCISCO • (415) 831-1200

BUY-SELL-TRADE: [illegible] WWW.AMOEBA.COM
PARKING IS EASY, WE VALIDATE! [illegible] GARAGE IN BERKELEY

The Uptown OAKLAND

5/20 DOOR 8PM $8
KILLOLA
THE PERFECT MACHINE, KRISTEEN YOUNG
TONIGHT!

5/21 DOOR 8PM $10
THE ZOOPY SHOW
[illegible], TORNADO RIDER

5/26 DOOR 8PM $10 www.[illegible].com
CASH'D OUT
THE B-STARS, TRUE GARDEN

5/27 DOOR 9PM NO COVER! PIRATE CAT RADIO LOCALS ONLY LIVE SHOWCASE
DIG THIS!
IAN SHARL, DA BLOODS, THE BLANK SLATES

5/28 DOOR 8PM $8 BLACK WIDOWS S.F. PRESENT
SHADOW SOCIETY [illegible]
LIVE PERFORMANCES BY
[illegible]

[illegible]
DOOR HOMECOMING PARTY!
HOTTUB
THE BAYLIENS, WILD YOUTH, LITTLE RED RADIO

[illegible] DOOR 9PM FREE! FIRST FRIDAYS!
AMPLIVE
K FLAY, TRACKADEMICKS, ILLEGOS

6/13 THE [illegible]
6/14 THE [illegible]

HUBBA HUBBA REVUE
LIVE! BURLESQUE! ONSTAGE!
MONDAYS 9PM $5

1928 TELEGRAPH AVE., OAKLAND
(510) 451-8100
WWW.UPTOWNNIGHTCLUB.COM

Jupiter

2181 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 510-843-8277
www.jupiterbeer.com • no cover

THUR 5/21
SELECTOR: DJ DIETSNAKS
[illegible] featuring DJ's [illegible] (Stronghold Sound), where they'll be serving up a delicious international blend of funk, nu-jazz and electronic music.
www.myspace.com/dietsnaks

FRI 5/22
MACABEA
[illegible] ensemble making a splash in the SF Latin Jazz scene. The four members of Macabea say "don't label it, simply listen or dance to it, if you feel the urge"
www.macabea.com

SAT 5/23
NARLEY WHITE JR. TRIO
[illegible] The Harley White Jr. Trio features a fresh, swinging and sometimes soulful, but always stylish take on jazz standards
www.myspace.com/harleywhite

SUN 5/24
AMERICANA UNPLUGGED:
PETE MADSEN
[illegible] About two or three times a season we give a nod to the blues and Pete's our go-to guy. It's always a real treat to hear Pete's guitar(s) fill the courtyard.
www.myspace.com/petemadsen

This Week's Featured Beers
[illegible]
Mad River IP
Jupiter Wire Porter
[illegible]
[illegible] Doppelbock
[illegible] IPA
[illegible]

C C

8 11:30 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Birth of the Cool: Miles Davis Birthday Tribute featuring Marcus Shelby, Mike Olmos, Erik Jekabson, Joe Cohen, Adam Theis, Adam Shulman, Jeff Marrs, Sheldon Brown & Mike Rinta, Yoshi's San Francisco, 9 pm, $16

420 Big Band w/ Kenny Washington, Jazz at Pearl's, 8 & 10 pm, $10-$15

Rock & Pop

Blame Johnny Foley's Irish House, 8 pm, free

Embrace the End w/ Man of Collapse, Early Graves, & Alcatraz, Cite Rover, 9 pm, $7

TUESDAY 26

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Country Bananas Dance Night w/ Western Welsh's Bar & Grill, 7:30-11 pm, free

Cedric Watson & Bijou Creole plus Cajun/Zydeco dance lesson at 8 p.m., Ashkenaz, 8:30 pm, $12

The Hillbilly Werkers Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden, 7-9 pm, free

The Hoity Toity Hillbilly Werkers Julie's Coffee & Tea Garden, 7 pm, free

The Lovelight Lower Levee Stork Club, 9 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Cal Almond Big Band The Baltic, 8 pm, free

Crosstown Jazz Band, Jazz Workshop, Jazz Ensemble Showcase Cal State East Bay University Theatre, 7:30 pm, $5-$7

Joe Shamas The Alley, 9 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Grelle Ginnastis w/ Bengue, Fox Theater, 8 pm, $23.50

Wendy DeWitt Tadich Bistro Plum, noon, free

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Ramana Vieira Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $18

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Embrace CD Release w/ Midnight Honor, Willie Mase, Hotel Utah, 9 pm, $7

Song Session w/ Vince Greene & friends, Plough and Stars, 9 pm, free

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Joshi Marshall Quartet/Mark Rapp Band Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 pm, $10

Rapp Jazz Jam w/ Joe Alan McKeown Trio Catalyst Cocktails, 7:30-11:30 pm, free

The Robert Romano Experience Pier 23, 8:30 pm, free

Sheposh Trio Bali Spot Cafe, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Elegy's Umbrella Park Brewery, 8:30 pm, free

Passion Pit w/ Matthew Dear, Cafe Paris, Bimbo's 365 Club, 8 pm, $15-$18

Rademacher w/ the High Strung, Shredded Strangers, Hemlock Tavern, 8 pm, $7

Rock 'n' Roll with Rhodie Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9:30 pm, free

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Shotgun Shotgun Shotgun Bruno's, 9 pm, $6

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Dennis Reed and the Afrobeat Ensemble w/ DJ Jeremiah, Elbo Room, 9 pm, $8

WEDNESDAY 27

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk & Country

Hoodwink Heroes w/ the Stonewalkers, Ashkenaz, 8 pm, $8

Soldier Stories Benefit concert for veterans' health care w/ Mayne Smith, Harry Rappaport, Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum, Freight & Salvage, 8 pm, $18.50-$19.50

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Ramona Gold Jazz Duo Doris Park, 7-8 pm, free

Patrick Greene Trio Jupiter, 8 pm, free

Red Dawn The Alley, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

Big This! local music showcase presented by Pirate Cat Radio. This week: Ian Blond, the Dixons, & the Dolls, Uptown, 9 pm, free

One Moore 3 Stork Club, 9 pm, $5

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

Maria de Barros Yoshi's, 8 & 10 pm, $20

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk & Country

Toby Walters & Friends 8-11:30 pm, $15

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony w/ Michelle DeYoung, mezzo-soprano, performing lieder by Schubert & Berg, Davies Symphony Hall, 7 pm, $35-$130

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Gonzo Moses, One Erik Pearson w/ Truly Devis Climate, 8 pm, $7-$15

Jazz, Lounge & Cabaret

Mama Planet Babylon musical revue and spoof of pop-culture figures in which Snow White travels around the world in search of Prince Charming, Club Fugazi, 8 pm, $25-$77

One Romero and the Grable Grable Top of the Mark, 7:30-11:30 pm, $10

Irma Thomas solo piano, Blue Spot Cafe, 8 pm, free

Rock & Pop

AmeBeye/TRBR w/ Count Dooze & the Black Dragon Fighting Society, Freddie Pev & the Heavy Ent SxFl Show, Blan's, 8 pm, $12-$15

Blue Widows and Potentiometer The Fillmore, 8 pm, $15

Big Shoulders w/ Dead End, Widow of the Hill, 10 pm, $12

Delicious Mouse w/ the Films, Amnesia Music Hall, 8 pm, $10

Kid Mud w/ the Cosmos Mystery, Chris Stroffolino, Hemlock Tavern, 9 pm, $6

SDRF w/ Valli, Mezzanine, 8 pm, $22.50

Devis Thornton The Independent, 8 pm, $18-$20

Paul Romero Cafe du Nord, 8 pm, $14

Juggernaut Music Tour w/ Pepper, Pennywise, Authority Zero, & Tomorrow's Bad Seeds, the Grable, 7:30 pm, $25-$27

St. Vincent w/ Pattern is Movement, Bimbo's 365 Club, 9 pm, $16

Terry Savastano Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 pm, free

Windy & Carl w/ Jason Rebhorn, Nudge Winkshaw Stop, 9 pm, $10

Soul, Funk, R&B & Hip-Hop

Beats, Rhymes, Life MC Competition Elements Lounge, 10 pm, $10

World, Latin, Reggae & Reggaetón

El Tren Pier 23, 8 pm, free

Orquesta Symphony open dance floor, Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 & 10 pm, $15 ●

san francisco
1330 Fillmore Street
San Francisco, California
94115

YOSHI'S
jazz club and JAPANESE RESTAURANT
YOSHIS.COM

oakland
510 Embarcadero West
Oakland, California
94607

Top 100 Bay Area Restaurants 2008 and Top 10 New Restaurants of 2008 —San Francisco Chronicle

this week! Wed, Thurs, May 20, 21
SEX MOB / HAPPY APPLE

this weekend! Fri, May 22
KENNY RANKIN

this weekend! Sat, Sun, May 23, 24
ROY ROGERS & THE DELTA RHYTHM KINGS

this weekend! Sun, May 24 7pm Show
RIC ALEXANDER & 2WO 4OUR 1NE
featuring Lavi Sabner and Darick Hughes

next week! Mon, May 25
Jazz Mafia Presents
BIRTH OF THE COOL: MILES DAVIS BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE
featuring Marcus Shelby, Mike Olmos, Erik Jekabson, Joe Cohen, Adam Theis, Adam Shulman, Jeff Marrs, Sheldon Brown and Mike Rinta

next week! Tues, May 26
The Inaugural Yoshi's Rising Stars Series:
JOSHI MARSHALL QUARTET
MARK RAPP BAND

Wed, May 27
ORQUESTA BORINQUEN

Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun, May 28, 29, 30, 31
AMEL LARRIEUX

Mon, June 1
JAZ SAWYER PRESENTS
BAY AREA YOUTH ALL STARS

Tue, Wed, Thurs, June 2, 3, 4
HERB ALPERT & LANI HALL

Late Night Live! Every Tuesday

this week! Wed, Thurs, May 20, 21
CANDY DULFER

this weekend! Fri, Sat, Sun, May 22, 23, 24
STEVE TYRELL

next week! Mon, May 25
Ensemble Jazz Workshops Presents
MILES DAVIS BIRTHDAY BASH
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of "BIRTH OF THE COOL"
Played by High School musicians from around the Bay Area

next week! Tues, May 26
The New Voice of Portuguese World Music
RAMANA VIEIRA

Wed, May 27
Cape Verdean Chanteuse
MARIA DE BARROS

Thurs, May 28
LARRY VUCKOVICH'S EURO TRASH INTERNATIONAL QUARTET

Fri, Sat, May 29, 30
Open Dance Floor!
ARMANDO PERAZA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
with John Santos & Orestes Vilato

Sun, May 31
JAMIE DAVIS

Mon, June 1
JENNIFER LEE

Tues, June 2
JULIAN LAGE

Wed, June 3
WILLIE JONES III QUARTET

HAPPY HOUR MONDAY-FRIDAY 5-6PM! FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS!

Get Tickets at YOSHIS.COM / the venue box office / 415-655-5600 / 510-238-9200

Gibson

NEW AT AMOEBA!

SELL US YOUR STUFF!
SELL US YOUR CDS, DVDS, LPS, & VIDEO GAMES!
We pay the most cash & offer the highest trade credit you'll find anywhere. Our buy counter is open Monday - Saturday 10:30am-10pm, Sunday 11am-9pm!
We love large collections & make house calls for large buys!
Call us or visit AMOEBA.COM for more info!

STUDENTS SHOP & SAVE @ AMOEBA BERKELEY!
10% OFF ALL USED MERCHANDISE TO STUDENTS WITH A VALID STUDENT I.D.!
(Offer valid at Amoeba Berkeley only. Not valid with any coupons or other discount offers)

STOREWIDE SUPER SALE!!!
For a limited time only...
Any $1K $1.00 Red Tag Clearance CDs For Only $1!
(Offer valid at Amoeba Berkeley only. Not valid with any coupons or other discount offers)

SPECIAL JAZZ CD BLOWOUT
"Swingers & Singers"
A comprehensive collection of pre-war to war era instrumentals & vocals, including rare broadcasts, v-discs, & more.
Most titles $1.00 or less! New titles added daily!
FINAL WEEK!
(Offer valid at Amoeba Berkeley only)

AMOEBA MUSIC

BERKELEY
2455 TELEGRAPH AVENUE
(510) 549-1125

SAN FRANCISCO
1855 HAIGHT STREET • (415) 831-1200

WWW.AMOEBA.COM

LIVE SHOWS CALENDAR
All shows are free & all ages welcome!

@ SAN FRANCISCO:
THURSDAY • MAY 28 • 5:30PM
KING KHAN & THE SHRINES

MONDAY • JUNE 15 • 6PM
ART BRUT

@ BERKELEY:
SATURDAY • JUNE 6 • 6PM
AMOEBA HOME GROWN & THE BERKELEY WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL PRESENTS:
MOH ALILECHE

SPECIAL EVENT!
GRIZZLY BEAR VECKATIMEST LISTENING PARTY
AT AMOEBA SF & BERKELEY
MONDAY, MAY 25TH AT 6PM!
Join Amoeba for this preview of Grizzly Bear's highly anticipated new album.
Veckatimest is available for purchase one day early for $12.98 at the Amoeba listening parties! (LP available for $19.98.)
Sign up on Amoeba.com & be first to get info on special deals, contests, events, in-store performances, free downloads & much, much more!!

DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 21

EAST BAY

Bailable w/ [illegible] & Don [illegible] spinning Afro-Latin, [illegible] salsa, & dancehall, La Tuza de Café, 10 pm, $5 donation

The Big Man at the House DJ Gary B spins house & dance music, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 pm, free

Blokhar and Sliders w/ [illegible], [illegible] & guests spinning [illegible] Latin music & classics from [illegible] the world, The Vibe Lounge, 10 pm, free

[illegible] Thursdays w/ [illegible], [illegible] & [illegible], 9 pm, $20, free before 10 pm

Fixin Fever w/ [illegible] Sound spinning reggae & dancehall, [illegible], 9 pm, free

College Night w/ DJ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, R&B, dancehall, & Top 40, White Horse Inn, 9 pm, $3, [illegible] free w/ valid ID

College Night DJ [illegible] spins hip-hop, club hits, & Top 40 for college students only, ID required, [illegible] on Telegraph, 9:30 pm, $2-$20 sliding scale

Jamaica Thursdays [illegible] spinning reggae & world beat, Air Bar & Lounge, 10 pm, free

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] spinning funk, [illegible], & electronic music, [illegible], 9 pm, free

DJ Add spinning [illegible], Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

DJ Jerry Ross spinning [illegible] funk, hip-hop, R&B, & more, Easy Lounge, 10 pm, free

DJ Trick spinning lounge, Lost Weekend Lounge, 9 pm-2 am, free

Jamaica [illegible] Pop From Planet Rock DJ [illegible] spins [illegible], & more, [illegible], 9 pm, free

Flamadelous DJ Richard Hook spins jazz & R&B, Kingman's Ivy Room, 6 pm, free

Happy Hour w/ DJ Donovan spinning reggae, Afrobeat, salsa, [illegible] & funk, Kitty's, 7 pm, free

Latin Night w/ [illegible], Club 1220, 9 pm, free

Old [illegible] spinning old soul, 60s, & [illegible], Mercury Lounge, 10 pm, free

Pure [illegible] Edge w/ [illegible] spinning power pop, punk, & glam, Ruby Room, 10 pm-2 am, free

[illegible] [illegible] pop, [illegible], new wave, free, 10 pm-2 am, free

Rock & Hole DJ [illegible] "[illegible] Boy" spins big band jazz, rockabilly, classic country, '60s soul, Island rhythm, & [illegible] blues, [illegible], 8:30 pm, free

Tasty [illegible] night w/ DJ [illegible] spinning hip-hop & R&B, [illegible] & Bar, 9 pm, $12

Thursday Throwdown w/ DJ [illegible] and guests spinning electro, [illegible], [illegible], house, electro, funk, & soul, Shattuck Down Low, 9 pm, free

Unity w/ [illegible] & [illegible], Air Bar & Lounge, 9:30 pm, free before 7 p.m., $5

SAN FRANCISCO

Afrofriction w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] & guests spinning Afro-beat [illegible], [illegible], 10 pm, $6

[illegible] w/ [illegible] spinning underground music in the Catacombs, Temple, 10 pm, free

Funky [illegible] w/ [illegible] Kung Fu Panda & [illegible] spinning funk, soul, reggae, hip-hop, & break beats, Skylark, 9 pm, free

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Daddy-Roko, [illegible] & [illegible] spin reggae, dancehall, soca, soul, & reggaeton in [illegible], Club Six, 9 pm-2 am, free before 11 p.m., $5

Punk [illegible] spinning funk, punk, ska, [illegible], hip-hop, [illegible], [illegible], 10 pm, free before 10:30 p.m., $3

Night Class [illegible] spin twenty-first century pop, & electro, Madrone Lounge, 9 pm, free

Phonic [illegible], The [illegible], 10 pm, $10

Santogold w/ Amanda Blank, Trouble Andrew, The Warfield, 8 pm, $25-$27

White Diamonds electro-pop punk-rock DJ dance party w/ [illegible], Jonny Young, & [illegible], Rickshaw Stop, 10 pm, $5

FRIDAY 22

EAST BAY

Latin Explosion DJ Jorge [illegible] spins cumbia, salsa, merengue, electro, Spanish pop, & more, [illegible] & Bar, 9 pm-2 am, $12

Mighty Irie [illegible], [illegible], & [illegible] spin reggae, dancehall, & hip-hop, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 10 pm, $10

Mocha [illegible] DJ [illegible] spinning Cuban music & Latin jazz, La Tuza de Café, 10:30 pm, free

Oaktastic DJ [illegible] spins funk, Latin, & [illegible], Easy Lounge, 10 pm, free

Retro-[illegible] [illegible] '80s pop night, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

Soul Fridays DJ [illegible] & [illegible] spin R&B & soul, [illegible], 9 pm, $5

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] Fire Edition, 8 pm, $23.50

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] Peterson, & DJ [illegible], Mezzanine, 8 pm, $22

SATURDAY 23

EAST BAY

AD Productions & [illegible] spinning R&B & hip-hop, [illegible], 10 pm, free

The Black Tent hosted by [illegible] spinning Moroccan music, 7 pm, free

[illegible] Maxwell's DJs Jerry Ross & Soul [illegible] spin R&B, soul, funk, [illegible] & hip-hop, Maxwell's Lounge, 9 pm, $10

DJ [illegible] [illegible], 10 pm-2 am, free

Freaky-Deaky DJ [illegible] and guests spin hip-hop, R&B, mash-ups, and soul, College Lane, 9 pm, free

Hot Night w/ DJ Bobbie Martin, White Horse Inn, 9 pm, $5

House Saturdays Club 1220, 9 pm, $5

La [illegible] Latino dance night w/ DJs spinning salsa, reggaeton, & bachata, plus [illegible] go-go dancers, [illegible] & Bar, 9 pm, $12

Le [illegible] [illegible] party w/ [illegible] & Jay [illegible], plus a live performance by [illegible], [illegible], 9 pm, $8

Magic [illegible] [illegible] & guests [illegible] extravaganza, Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

Pop History 101 DJs spin pop from the [illegible] to Michael Jackson, Ruby Room, 10 pm-2 am, free

Reggae Gold w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], & guests, Karibbean City, 10 pm, $15

[illegible] Saturdays w/ [illegible] & [illegible], Club Anton, 9 pm, $5 before 10 p.m., $8

SAY IT LOUD w/ [illegible] Kane & [illegible], Easy Lounge, 10 pm, free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] spinning hip-hop, Bay hits, breaks, and progressive house, Parkway Lounge, 9 pm, free

To-Dow II Oakland [illegible], [illegible], & [illegible] spin classic party movers & future funk, Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 pm, $10

[illegible] w/ [illegible] & [illegible] spinning hip-hop, [illegible] punk, [illegible] & more, Mercury Lounge, 10 pm, free

SAN FRANCISCO

Body Rock [illegible] & [illegible], plus guests spin [illegible], dancehall & soul, [illegible], 11 pm, $5

[illegible] w/ [illegible] & Roger [illegible] spinning cumbia, [illegible], salsa, [illegible], and world [illegible], [illegible] Room, 11 pm, $5

[illegible] Festival 2008 featuring Paul Van Dyk, [illegible], Ferry Corsten, & more, Cow Palace, 5 pm, $75-$130

Nightbeat w/ [illegible] & [illegible] spinning Northern soul and [illegible], Edinburgh Castle, 9 pm, free before 10 p.m., $5

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible] & guests spinning electro, indie rock, electro, & '80s, Rickshaw Stop, 10 pm, $7

PICK

Santigold

Formerly known as the artist Santogold until she lost a trademark dispute to some loser in Chicago, vocalist Santi White, now **Santigold**, embodies pan-global electronic pop alongside fellow frequent flyer M.I.A. The 33-year-old Philly native and Wesleyan graduate was a savvy industry A&R rep and executive producer after college. In 2008, White's debut Santogold was expertly hyped and leaked, and it dominated year-end Best Of lists with many effervescent bangers like "Creator" and "Shove It." Thanks to the right DJ guests like Diplo and Switch, the album cracked the Billboard 200 and achieved a rapid mainstream ubiquity on par with Moby in the Nineties. No small feat for a self-professed dub punk. Thursday, May 24. White storms the **Warfield** (982 Market St., San Francisco) with Amanda Blank and Trouble Andrew. 8 p.m. $20.50. TheWarfieldTheatre.com — *David Downs*

[illegible] Party w/ DJ [illegible] Light of the Lowrunners, the [illegible], and DJ Anna Lee, 222 Club, 9 pm, $5

Temptation w/ [illegible], [illegible], & guests spinning goth, electro, alternative indie, punk, post-punk, & new wave, Cat Club, 9:30 pm, $7

SUNDAY 24

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible] CD Release w/ Lady K, Patah, [illegible], 8 pm, $8-$10

[illegible] w/ DJ [illegible], [illegible] & guests spinning dub, [illegible] & dancehall [illegible], The [illegible], 8 pm, $5

MONDAY 25

SAN FRANCISCO

Spirit Sessions w/ [illegible], Kung Fu Chris, & [illegible] spinning funk, soul, [illegible], '60s [illegible], jazz, Latin, and Afrobeat, Tunnel Top, 10 pm, free

TUESDAY 26

EAST BAY

DJ [illegible] spinning Kingman's Lucky Lounge, 9 pm, free

WEDNESDAY 27

EAST BAY

[illegible] Wednesdays DJ [illegible] & guests spin salsa, merengue, reggaetón, & hip-hop, plus salsa dance lessons at [illegible], Luka's Taproom & Lounge, 9 pm, free ■

HAVE FUN! MAKE $$
MEET PEOPLE
NATION'S LARGEST
888-901-TIPS(8477)
www.[illegible].com

ANNAPURNA
we love you long time
69-09
WINNER '08
2416 TELEGRAPH AVE. BERKELEY
annapurnalive.com
Sun.-Thu. 10am-10pm
Fri.-Sat. 10am-[illegible]

The Party is Now at Jack London Square

(The Express has moved.) Our new address is 620 3rd St., Oakland, 94607

EAST BAY EXPRESS

lavalife VOICE
THE HOTTEST LOCAL SINGLES!
CALL NOW!
OAKLAND
510-379-7590
PLEASANTON 925-271-5599
SAN JOSE 408-512-9314
SAN MATEO 650-238-4272
SANTA ROSA 707-706-0580
SANTA CRUZ 831-706-4400
SAN FRANCISCO 415-990-5750

the night exchange
Real people • Explicit chat
FREE
PRIVATE. EXPLICIT. TALK.
CALL NOW!
OAKLAND
510-380-8000
NEW! nightexchange.com

Adult

ADULT CLUBS

Interracial Kink
Swingers Party
[illegible]
510-388-5108
www.interracial-kink.org

ADULT SERVICES

Are You Struggling *With Sex*
[illegible]
George Collins, MA, Sexual Compulsions Specialist; 13 years experience says I can help YOU
925-932-0201
[illegible]

Gorgeous Nikita is Back in town!
[illegible]
Call Now: 510-[illegible]
Mon-Fri 12-8pm Sat 12-4pm
Lake Merritt. [illegible]

BODY RUBS

Asian American Beauty in Mid 20's, Toned and Slender.
Offers a Quality Sensual Playful, Relaxing [illegible] Lake Merritt. [illegible]
Karen [illegible]

Bi-Black & Masculine
[illegible]
***82 510-776-9945**

Blissful Bodyrub in Oakland
Exquisite, sensual experience. Unrushed, quality pampering. [illegible]
Angela 510-677-2388

Sexy Marry Jay
[illegible]

PHONE ENTERTAINMENT

Meet Sexy Singles!
Reply to Ads Free!
[illegible]
Visit MegaMates.com, 18+

Outdoor Local Bi-Guys!
[illegible]
Free trial code 5857
InteractiveMale.com

make your connection
FREE TRIAL
CODE [illegible]
510.859.2020
[illegible]

Talk about a good time
FREE TRIAL
CALL NOW CODE 5714
510.859.2000
San Francisco 415.[illegible]
Palo Alto 650.[illegible]
San Jose 408.[illegible]
Find your local # 1.800.[illegible]
[illegible]
Ahora en español

NADIA SUMMERS
[illegible]

Kandy
IN/OUTCALLS 24HR.
510-2[illegible]36

GIRL NEXT DOOR!
[illegible]
Mixed beauty
916-583-1525

Leilani
[illegible]
36-38-36
[illegible]
Hawaiian & Filipino treat

Kessia

Stephanie
[illegible]
*82 510.[illegible]
Call for location

AURELIA
510.776.4450
34C 28 38

UZURE
[illegible]
408-[illegible]-6346

Melanie
HAYWARD INCALLS
HABLA ESPAÑOL
510-904-8137

LEAH
EXOTIC GREEN EYES
*82 415.632.0010

JEWEL
YOUNG COLLEGE GIRL
STRAWBERRY BLONDE
[illegible]
925-864-5503

GRAND OPENING
New Asian Girls
[illegible]
510.566.[illegible]

INTERRACIAL-KINK: A SEXY PARTY
Weekly Play Parties from [illegible] p.m. until ...
Fri. 5/22: Memorial Weekend Orgy
Sat. 5/23: Memorial Weekend Orgy II
Sun. 5/24: Memorial Weekend BBQ Orgy III
[illegible] Sexy Couples and Select Singles are welcome to attend.
Elegant East Bay Hills private location.
Hot Tub and Group Playrooms
510.388.5108
Couples Call Together
www.interracial-kink.org

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN™
SAN FRANCISCO
510.859.1000
[illegible]
TRY FOR FREE [illegible]
[illegible]

Brandy Love
510-926-5075

CHERI
[illegible]
YOUNG HOT EXOTIC
BLONDE PLAYMATE
925-864-5503

Top Rated Escorts list
FREE access no memberships
100's of rated local ads
5,000 local visitors daily
Helping you find erotic fun since 1998
escorts massage parlors fetish domsms tvts - verified & rated
LOVINGS.COM
To advertise ONLY: 415.386.7797 - ads starting at $75!

Gini
IN/OUTCALLS
WET & WAITING
*82 510.584.8283

SEXY BROWN
CINDY
EAST BAY & SF
831-585 9721
[illegible]

MEET LOCAL SINGLES
Listen & Reply to Locals FREE!

Oakland	510.343.0161
Concord	925.695.1212
Hayward	510.342.0464
San Francisco	415.430.9088
Santa Rosa	707.583.1086
Alternative Locals	
Oakland	510.343.1122
Concord	925.686.1105
Hayward	510.342.2122
San Francisco	415.430.1199
Santa Rosa	707.583.1112

FREE CODE 9910
For other cities call (888) MegaMates
MegaMates
[illegible]

Massage Parlors

MASSAGE PARLOR

AAA Athletic Lean Trained Masseur
[illegible]
510-439-1095 Mario

Absolutely Perfect!
[illegible]
Richard CMT 510-287-1046

Asian Massage In Walnut Creek
Let us pamper you and make you happy. Experienced Attractive Masseuses.
Radiant Acupressure
Rear of Palos Verdes Mall, 1 mile from I-680 on Geary Rd
925-988-0188

Awesome Massage
[illegible]

BodyZen Massage
Grand Opening Discount
12995 Alcosta Blvd #1A
San Ramon, CA 94583
[illegible]

Certified Massage By Peter
[illegible]
Berkeley [illegible]

Cool Gay Man to Man
[illegible]

Superb Asian Massage
[illegible]

Massage For Gay & Bi Men
[illegible]

Healing Heaven by Asian Female CMT
[illegible]

Healing Touch
[illegible]

Indulge yourself
with the best massage in the East Bay [illegible]

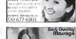
Professional Body Massage
[illegible]

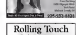
Relaxing Swedish Massage By Asian Lady
[illegible]
Call 510-832-2150

SensualSenses.com
[illegible]
Jane 510-451-3776
Special Economy Pricing

Tired of Skinny Girls?
[illegible]

Very Tall Cool Indian Female, Ex Model
[illegible]
Spring Special $80
[illegible]


AMAZING ASIAN SENSUAL FULL BODY MASSAGE.
[illegible]
510-677-6503


Best Quality Massage
[illegible]
Walnut Creek, CA
925-933-8828

Rolling Touch
Body Shampoo & Massage
Open 7 Days
110 Railroad Ave Suite F Suisun CA
707.426.4279

GRAND OPENING
ORIENTAL MASSAGE
DEEP TISSUE, ACUPRESSURE, SHIATSU, SWEDISH
(925)939-3628
[illegible]

YOUNG SWEET PRETTY ASIAN GIRLS
[illegible]
510-512-3000

Best New Asian Girls
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 10 AM [illegible]
PRIVATE ROOMS FREE PARKING
[illegible] WALNUT CREEK [illegible]
925-938-3686

925.979.9988
NEW ASIAN CMT
Professional Massage
1569 3rd Ave./N.Main St
WALNUT CREEK

Lucky Massage
Young, Beautiful Asian Girls
- Swedish
- Full Body
- Relaxing

510-222-2798
[illegible] Hilltop Mall Rd
Richmond CA
Open 7 days, 10:00am-10:0[illegible]pm

THE BEST MASSAGE
San Leandro Health Center
Acupuncture • Acupressure
Hot Stone
[illegible]
Call 510-276-6688
[illegible] San Leandro CA 94578

BRAND - NEW IN BERKELEY
GRAND OPENING
[illegible]
HEALING HANDS MASSAGE
CLEAN, FRESH AND COZY PRIVATE ROOMS
FREE PARKING
510-525-8328
[illegible] SAN PABLO AVE
BERKELEY, CA 94702

SUNRISE
MASSAGE THERAPY CENTER
Certified & Experienced
[illegible]
2483 Ignacio Valley Rd.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
[illegible]
Tel 925-256-8378

510.548.8819
BERKELEY
GRAND OPENING
Best Massage
2103 WOOLSEY ST @ SHATTUCK

New Management
CRYSTAL MASSAGE
510 848 5354
Swedish Shiatsu Deep Tissue
[illegible]

Relaxation Spa
510-575-7750
[illegible]
Open 10am to 10pm
[illegible]

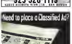
Let us pamper you & make you happy.
Experienced, Attractive Masseuses
ASIAN MASSAGE
in Walnut Creek
Radiant Acupressure
Rear of Palos Verdes Mall,
1 mile from I-680 on Geary Rd
925.988.0188

LIFE BALANCE MASSAGE
[illegible] Mt. Diablo Blvd
Walnut Creek
925-952-9988
[illegible]

Sunflower Qi
[illegible]
Oakland, CA [illegible]

FOREVER DAY SPA
GRAND OPENING!!!
[illegible]
OPEN DAILY
10AM-10PM
(510) 651-1888
43456 Grimmer Blvd
[illegible] Auto Mall Parkway
**ALL Major credit cards

TRADITIONAL THAI MASSAGE
CALL US TODAY
925-328-1119
12825 ALCOSTA BLVD [illegible] SAN RAMON


Need to place a Classified Ad?
EAST BAY EXPRESS
510-879-3830

GOOD DAY SPA
[illegible]
2041 University Ave. Berkeley
[illegible]
510-665-7847

Healing Garden Spa
- Massage
- Accupressure
- Deep Tissue
- Swedish
- Relaxation

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
10 AM - 9 PM
200 Gregory Lane Building C #100
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925-691-5328
FREE PARKING

EAST BAY EXPRESS

Classifieds

Community Announcements 58
Music Exchange 58
Buy Sell Trade 58
Rentals & Real Estate 58
Employment 59
Savage Love 59
Bulletin Board 60

Contact Us:
Ads can be placed Mon - Fri during business hours by calling 510 879 3800 or by E-mailing: [illegible]

Online:
[illegible] also [illegible] at EastBayExpress.com

Ad Deadline:
[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NUMBER: [illegible]
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
[illegible]
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: [illegible]
NOTICE OF HEARING
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # 424036
[illegible]
5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/2009

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]
[illegible]
4/29, 5/27, 6/3, 6/10/2009

Need to Publish a Legal Notice?
[illegible] East Bay Express.
Call 510-879-3776.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DIRECTV
[illegible]

MUSICIAN SERVICES

Poweramp Amp & Electronic
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Recording
[illegible]

IN MEMORIAM

In Memoriam

Cecil Melvin White
4/5/1919-5/9/2009
[illegible]

MUSIC INSTRUCTION

Saxophone and Piano Lessons
[illegible]

AUTO/TRUCKS

[illegible]

Great deal
[illegible]

ELECTRONICS

Get A New Computer
[illegible]

Get A New Computer
[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Online Pharmacy
[illegible]

PETS/PET SUPPLIES

Broadway Pet Hospital
[illegible]
4920 Broadway
Oakland CA
510-653-6212

Funny
[illegible]
presented: East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Sadie
[illegible]
presented: East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Tristan and Isolde
[illegible]
presented: East Bay Humane Society
2700 9th Street, Berkeley
510-845-7735
www.berkeleyhumane.org

Rentals & Real Estate

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Oakland
$745
510-[illegible]
[illegible]

Oakland/Near Fruitvale BART
$1100
415-[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] Oakland Hills
[illegible]

Oakland / Piedmont
$1000
510-[illegible]
[illegible]

COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

Artist Work Space
[illegible]

CONDOS/DUPLEXES TOWNHOMES FOR RENT

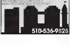
Oakland
$1500
510-[illegible]
[illegible]

ROOMMATE SERVICES

Need A Roommate Fast?
[illegible]

All Areas-Roommates.com
[illegible]

Greening the Bay Area one home at a time.
Michelle Stephens
[illegible]
Email: Michelle@OrganicAgent.com
www.OrganicAgent.com


FORD STREET STUDIOS
[illegible]
510-536-9828

Employment

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

$600 Weekly Potential$$$ Helping the Government PT. No Experience, No Selling. Call: 1-888-213-5225 Ad Code L-5. Void in Maryland and South Dakota. (AAN CAN)

Help Wanted Earn Extra income assembling [illegible]. Our Live Operators Now! 1-800-405-7619 ext. 150 www.easywork-greatpay.com (AAN CAN)

EDUCATION

Learn Portuguese Individual [illegible] classes. All levels. Teacher with 25 years experience. Ask me about students. Competitive rates. Maria 510-[illegible]

High School Diploma! Fast, Affordable & Accredited. Free Brochure. Call Now! 1-800-532-6546 Ext. 97 www.continentalacademy.com (AAN CAN)

Learn to Bartend [illegible] www.[illegible]bartending.com

MISCELLANEOUS JOBS

Post Office Now Hiring! Avg. Pay $[illegible] or $54K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training, Vacations. PT/FT. 1-866-945-0295 (AAN CAN)

Post Office Now Hiring! Avg. Pay $21/hr or $54K annually including Federal Benefits and OT. Paid Training. [illegible] (AAN CAN)

MOVIE EXTRAS
NEEDED NOW!
Earn $100 - $300/day.
No Experience Required.
All Looks Wanted - FT/PT.
Call Now 1-800-604-9001

Drivers Needed Qualified [illegible] drivers for [illegible] Must have your own car or truck, [illegible] insurance and a clean DMV. [illegible] Please Call Steve at 510-879-3760.

AUDITIONS SHOW BIZ

Movie Extras Needed. Earn $150 to $300 Per Day. All Looks, Types and Ages. Feature Films, Television, Commercials, and Print. No Experience Necessary. 1-800-340-8404 x2001 (AAN CAN)

Movie Extras, Actors, Models, Reality TV [illegible] $45 [illegible] 800-[illegible]

Work as Movie Extras, Actors, Models [illegible] Call 24/7 at 1-800-[illegible] (AAN CAN)

MODELING

Models Earn Cash Today [illegible] Call Alison or [illegible]

TRADE JOBS

Solar Staffing We [illegible] www.SolarStaffing.com [illegible]

PART TIME JOBS

Virtual Office Assistant Part time Virtual Office Assistant [illegible] No previous training [illegible] Please [illegible] Fax: 213-[illegible]

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Oakland Food Connection Seeking Volunteers! Gardening, Nutrition Education, Catering. Check our website for volunteering information! [illegible]

Support Low Income Women with Cancer [illegible] Drivers, Support Staff, Spanish & Chinese Language [illegible] Women of Color [illegible] 510-451-7660 ext. 28

Train to be a Crisis Intervention Counselor Crisis Support Services of Alameda County [illegible] Call today! 510-420-2473.

SUMMER JOBS!

WORKING WITH THE ACLU
Earn $1340-$2140 month.
Work with Grassroots Campaigns, Inc on behalf of the ACLU to restore our rights, Stop NSA spying on US Citizens, stop illegal torture and detention, and overturn Proposition 8.
F/T, Career Call Cameron
East Bay 510-848-1754 SF 415-447-9396
Santa Cruz 831-421-9599

SAVAGE LOVE

WHEN SEXUAL INCOMPATIBILITY THREATENS

This week, Dan hands over advice column to a bunch of drunks.

By Dan Savage

I regard this column as a sacred tryst. Your faith in my counsel and willingness to take me into your confidence moves and humbles me on a daily basis, and the seriousness with which I approach my chosen profession would normally prevent me from turning your letters over to a bunch of unruly drunks in a bar. But word somehow got around the bar where I retired to write this week's column, and the assembled drunks insisted that they be allowed to share their hard-earned wisdom with you. So I printed out a few of your letters and passed them around with pens and legal pads. Please note that I don't endorse all of the asshole opinions below, and rest assured that I will be drinking/writing/drinking elsewhere from now on.

My wife and I have been married for eight months and I love her very much. However, we don't have sex much, maybe three times a month. We've seen a therapist a few times and it hasn't changed anything. I still love her, but my needs haven't been met and I'm frustrated. Due to my frustration I posted an ad on Craigslist — not to cheat but to just get some erotic interaction on the web. I only sent a few pictures back and forth. However, my wife found the e-mails. I apologized and said I never wanted to be with anyone but her, but that I just wanted to feel like I was desired. My wife has asked me to move out for a while, which I did. Are we effed? I know what I did was horrible, but I want to make this marriage work. I love her, and I don't want this to end it.

Confused In Salt Lake

- "Since you live in Salt Lake, I'm going to assume that you didn't have sex with your wife before you got married, and so it turns out that you and your wife are incompatible. Next time, try the milk before you buy the cow."
- "A lot of men make the mistake of initiating sex by just being like, 'Hey, let's fuck.' Try this: Rub her shoulders, offer to make her a bath, give her a foot massage. Then eat her out, but don't ask for anything. Do this for two weeks. Show her that you want her to enjoy sex. If it doesn't work, sorry, you're fucked."
- "You have four separate problems that are now, through the magic of synergy, combined into one big one: Your wife's not into sex, you live in Utah, your wife made you move out, and you're using Craigslist. Time for some radical honesty. Tell her exactly how you feel and what you want. Insist she do the same. Don't censor. This will either finish burning your marriage to the ground or maybe — MAYBE — allow you to start dealing with each other like adults."

I have a submissive side. My first dominant girlfriend would face-sit me for an hour after she climaxed, she would ride me until she climaxed multiple times, and only then would she let me climax. Eventually we were doing cunnilingus after intercourse, but when she suggested it might be fun to add "more sauce" to the mix — bring another man into our play — I dumped her. A similar thing happened in my next relationship. Do all dominant women think all male submissives are interested in bisexual behavior and being a cuckold?

There is a BDSM group in Washington, DC, but the cohort for under-35s is tiny and it's nothing but fat women. I work out. I have a salary, and I eat my lunch every day. I don't need to be looked after. I am totally self-reliant, but I nevertheless want to be completely dominated by a woman. Should I be more patient and let her find me, or should I find ways to put out more openly that I am a submissive?

Where Are The Monogamous Dominant Women?

- "Where are your social skills, douchebag?"
- "You sound like a dick. Only act your way as you dump them? WTF? Try meeting someone you like and slowly introduce the Dom/sub stuff."
- "When I got to 'I have a salary and I eat my lunch,' I stopped reading."
- "There is nothing less attractive than a sub screaming, 'Top me, Mistress — but not if you're too fat or too poly or too old or if you actually have fantasies of your own or if you're going to order me to do something I don't want to do.' That's why you're not getting any action, dummy."

My partner and I are in our mid-twenties and have been together since our teens. We have similar interests and compatible lifestyles. We make an awesome pair. Unfortunately, we are not sexually compatible. Over time we've grown closer regarding most things except for sex. I've come to realize that I'm kinky and nonmonogamous. My partner is decidedly not kinky, though she has said that if I slept with others she would NEVER want to know. That leaves a door slightly open.

I love her and am committed to the relationship, but I need some kink to be happy, and my outing myself as kinky has led to a steady deterioration in our vanilla sex life. Is it fair to put her on notice that I'll be kinking out as opportunities arise and deal with the fallout as we go?

Seeking Orderly Solution

- "She said she would 'never want to know.' That is NOT an open door."
- "Putting her 'on notice' sounds kind of assholish. Have the big, awful, stomach-clenching talk about your future. It's not fair to either of you for you to have to stay monogamous and be unhappy. You need to figure this out."
- "You'll be unhappy for a few years if you leave her, but you'll be unhappy for the REST OF YOUR LIFE if you stay."
- "WTF? Get rid of the shit. I'm not talking about 'leaving her.' She's likely to have some of your secrets. KILL HER. Everything you need is at a convenience store: shovel, lime, rope, large garbage bags, sympathy card for the family."

Thanks for the input and insight, assembled drunks. And for the record: Murder is wrong. Dump her, SOS, don't kill her. ●

Download my podcast at TheStranger.com/savage
mail@savagelove.net

EAST BAY EXPRESS Bulletin Board

To advertise on the Bulletin Board, call 510-879-3800 or
Email Classified@EastBayExpress.com Deadline is Monday 4pm

Guitar/Bass Repair
Free Estimates Free Pickup & Delivery
Fret Jobs Mods Set-ups
Restoration and Maintenance
Aaron@MuretGuitars.com 925-595-5801

Movie Extras Needed Now!
Earn $100 - $300/day No Experience Required. All Looks Wanted FT/PT
Call Now 1 800 604-9091

Support Low Income Women with Cancer
Seeking volunteers 510-601 7660 ext 20

Lams Gardening Service and All Types of Hauling & Clean up
Free Estimates! 510 508-6878

SeasonalSense.com 510 451-3773

Movie Extras - Actors - Models - Reality TV
No experience needed, all looks and ages, $45 portfolio fee required
800-605-5901

Earth Circles Counseling Center
Compassionate, Professional Therapists. Sliding Scale Call 510-601 1929
www.EarthCirclesCounseling.com

Medical Marijuana Delivery
Low-cost same day service
510 785-3500

Medical Marijuana Evaluations
Professional and Affordable
www.compassionatehealthoptions.com
510-465-0420 or 415 255-1200

Learn To Bartend
Thousands trained and placed.
$199 Tuition Ends Soon!
Nation's Largest 888-901 TIPS(8477)
www.abcbartending.com

Massage Body Love 510-303-4367

Crisis Support Services of Alameda County
Needs Volunteers to answer our 24 hour crisis lines. No experience necessary - we train
Call for more details. 510-420-2471

Need to Publish a Legal Notice?
Advertise it in the East Bay Express
510-879 3776 or
LegalNotices@EastBayExpress.com

Sex Taking Over Your Life?
Counseling for men with sexually compulsive behavior. George Collins,M A 925-932-0201
www.compulsionsolutions.com

Work as Movie Extras Actors Models
$45 to register Earn up to $300/day!
Call 24/7 at 1 800 605-5901 (AAN CAN)

F J Home Repair / Improvements
Plumbing, Electrical, Painting, Drywall, Flooring and More 100% Guarantee 510 703 3371

HOLISTIC HEALING CENTER

Grand Opening
10% Off Select Flowers

Now Open
Mon-Sat 10AM-8PM
Patient must have valid ID

3288 Pierce St. Suite # M108
(inside Pacific East Mall, on the 2nd Floor)
Richmond, CA.
(510) 527-STARS (7827)

Medi Cann

Lowest Fee in the State
Free Identification Card

Largest Provider of Medicinal Marijuana Recommendations

Most Trusted by Law Enforcement

We Renew Any Doctor's Recommendation

1.866.632.6627
www.medicannusa.com

Questions About Cannabis?

Get them answered for free.

- Meet like-minded new friends.
- Get answers from industry professionals.
- Organize and get politically active.
- Keep current with up to the minute news.
- Read and write club reviews.
- Win prizes.

oaksterdam.com

Absolutely Perfect Massage by Richard CMT
Private Secure Location. Call 510 207-0545

Deborah's Home Repairs
Carpentry, electrical, plumbing, tile and construction Specialty- Creative Carpentry, 18 Years Experience
510-520-2007

Free Counseling
Berkeley Free Clinic
Peer Counseling Collective
Drop in Mon-Thu 6:45-9pm
2339 Durant Berkeley CA
freepeercounseling@gmail.com
510 548-2570 ext. 2350

Maui Vacation Rentals
Call Quom Properties at
1 888-665 1315
www.quomproperties.com

Get Your East Bay Express Gear!
T-Shirts, Mugs, Postcards, Ties, Mouse Pads, Tote Bags, Snowboards, Aprons, Hats, etc
www.zazzle.com/eastbayexpress

Custom Blend Your Own Tea
Start by picking Green, Black, White, Rooibos, Honeybush or Yerba Mate. Then add fruits, flavors, herbs, flowers and other fun stuff. Wholesale accounts available
www.customleaf.com

Volunteers Needed at Lincoln Child Center
Kitchen Helpers, Musicians, Guest Artists, Classroom Helpers, Gardeners, Landscapers & Lincoln Goes Green Volunteers. Elizabeth
510 531-3111x 107
elizabethbenson@lincolncc.org

Christy Bertani Bookkeeping
20 years computerized accounting experience for small businesses throughout the East Bay.
510-849-2545

New Dispensary in Richmond
7 Stars Holistic Healing Center
Located in the Pacific East Mall
3288 Pierce St Suite# M108
(2nd floor) Richmond
510 527-STARS (7827)

Discover what the media isn't telling you about Oakland's Measure Z
oaksterdaminfo.com

Bay Area Singles Dance Party Mixer
June 20 th at 8pm to 12am
Learn more at
www.ProGuildSocial.com
or call 925-888-4392

GRIZZLY BEAR VECKATIMEST LISTENING PARTY AT AMOEBA S.F. & BERKELEY

MONDAY, MAY 26TH AT 6PM!

Join Amoeba for this special event, featuring a preview of Grizzly Bear's highly anticipated new album. Guide-to-win free tickets to see Grizzly Bear at The Fillmore on June 21st, and limited edition Grizzly Bear vinyl! Veckatimest available for purchase one day only for $12.99 at the Amoeba listening parties! (LP available for $16.98)

BERKELEY • 2455 Telegraph Ave. • 510-549-1125 ★ SAN FRANCISCO • 1855 Haight St. • 415-831-1200 ★ Parking is easy! We validate: Haight & Stanyan Lot in SF and Durant/Telegraph Garage in Berkeley • AMOEBA.COM